



**38** | \$2.25 US  
\$3.25 CAN  
JAN 98

# STARDUST



**THE MIST  
VERSUS...**

**...THE NEW  
JUSTICE  
LEAGUE  
EUROPE**

HARTNELL 97  
AFTER ABELL



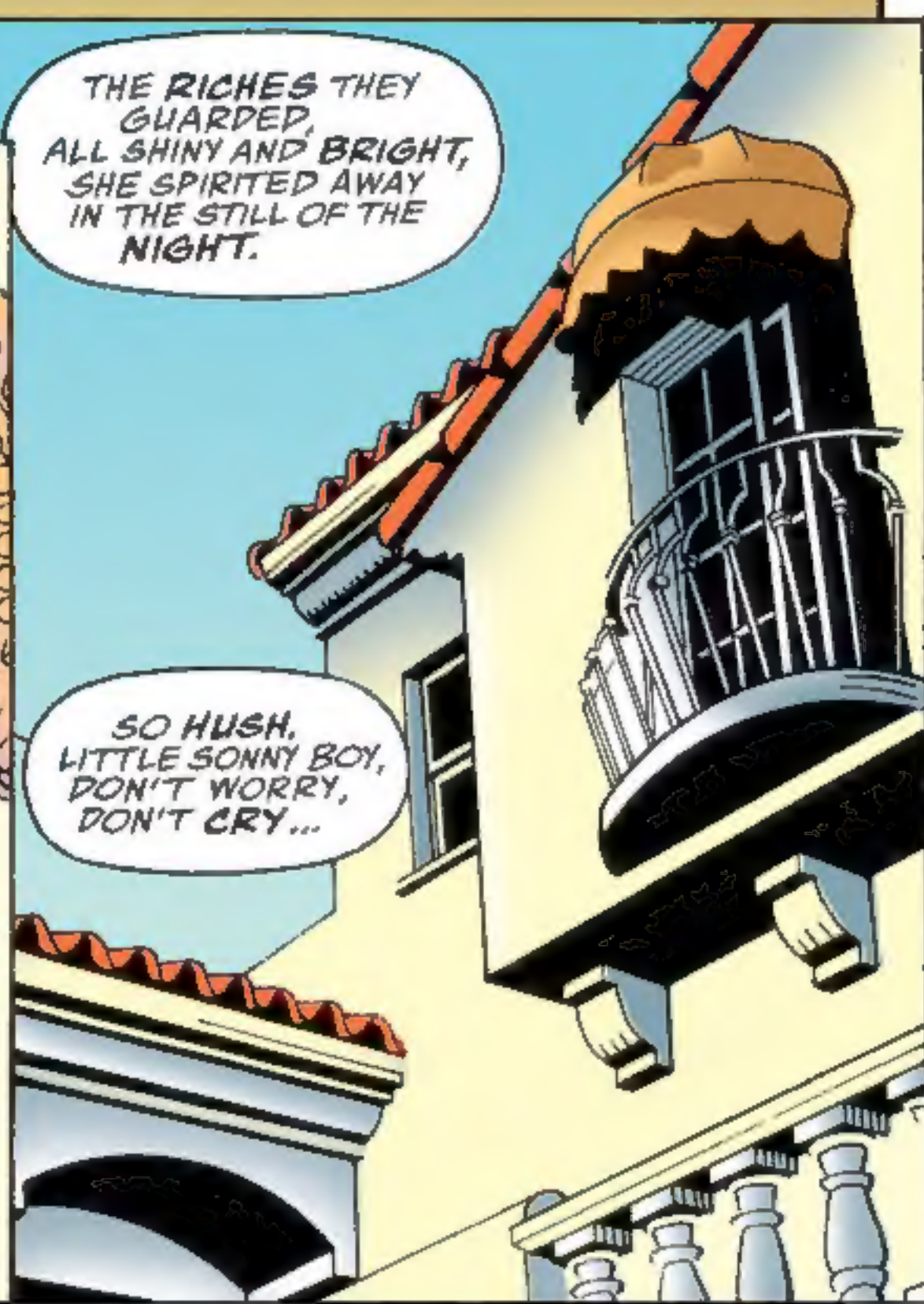
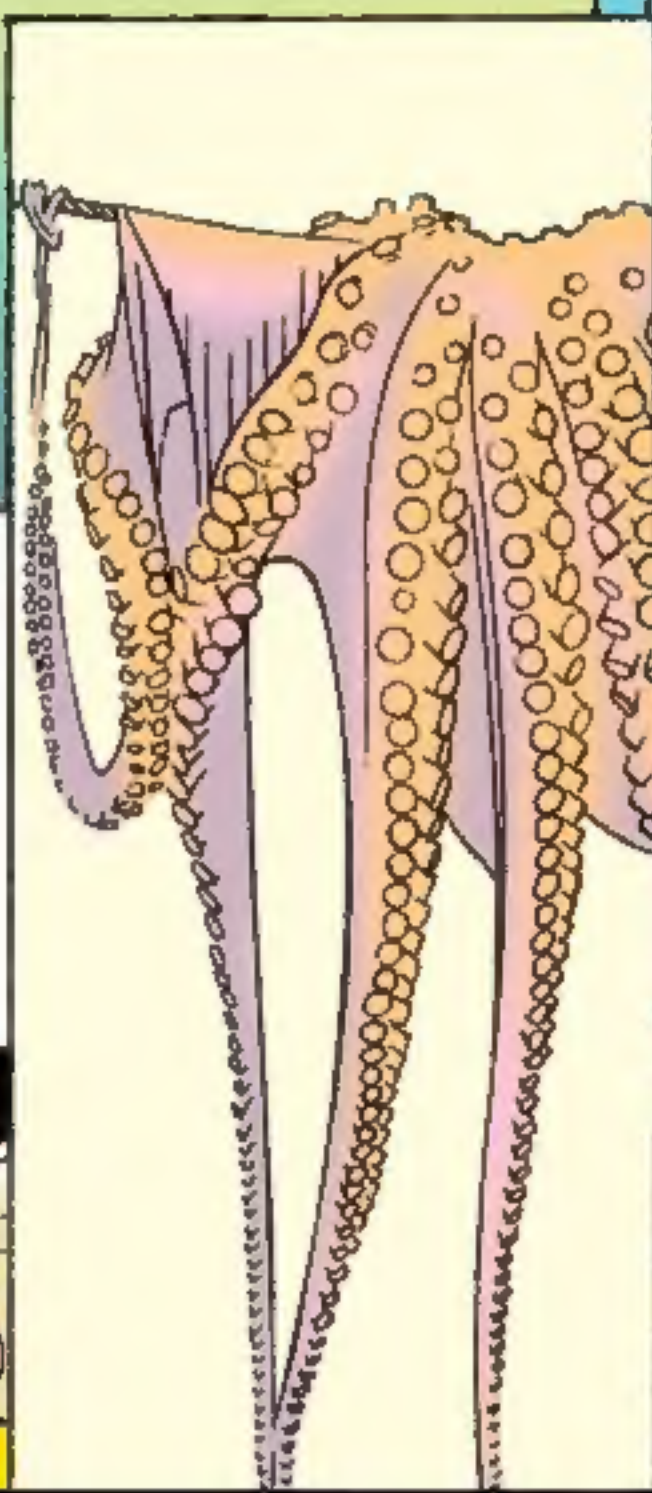
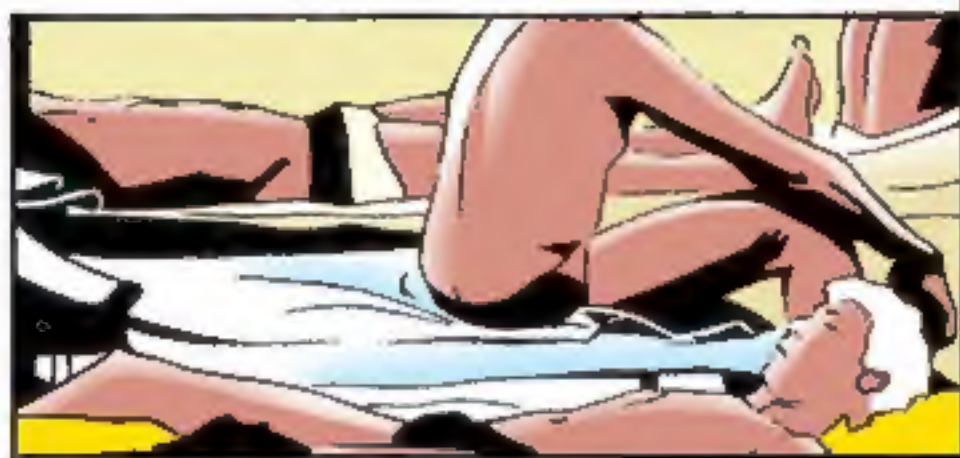
HUSH, LITTLE SONNY BOY,  
DON'T SAY A WORD.  
MOMMY IS BACK FROM HER  
TIME SPENT ABROAD.

SHE MET WITH SOME HEROES,  
THEY THOUGHT THEY WOULD WIN.  
BUT MOMMY WAS RUTHLESS,  
SHE DIDN'T GIVE IN.



THE RICHES THEY  
GUARDED,  
ALL SHINY AND BRIGHT,  
SHE SPIRITED AWAY  
IN THE STILL OF THE  
NIGHT.

SO HUSH,  
LITTLE SONNY BOY,  
DON'T WORRY,  
DON'T CRY...

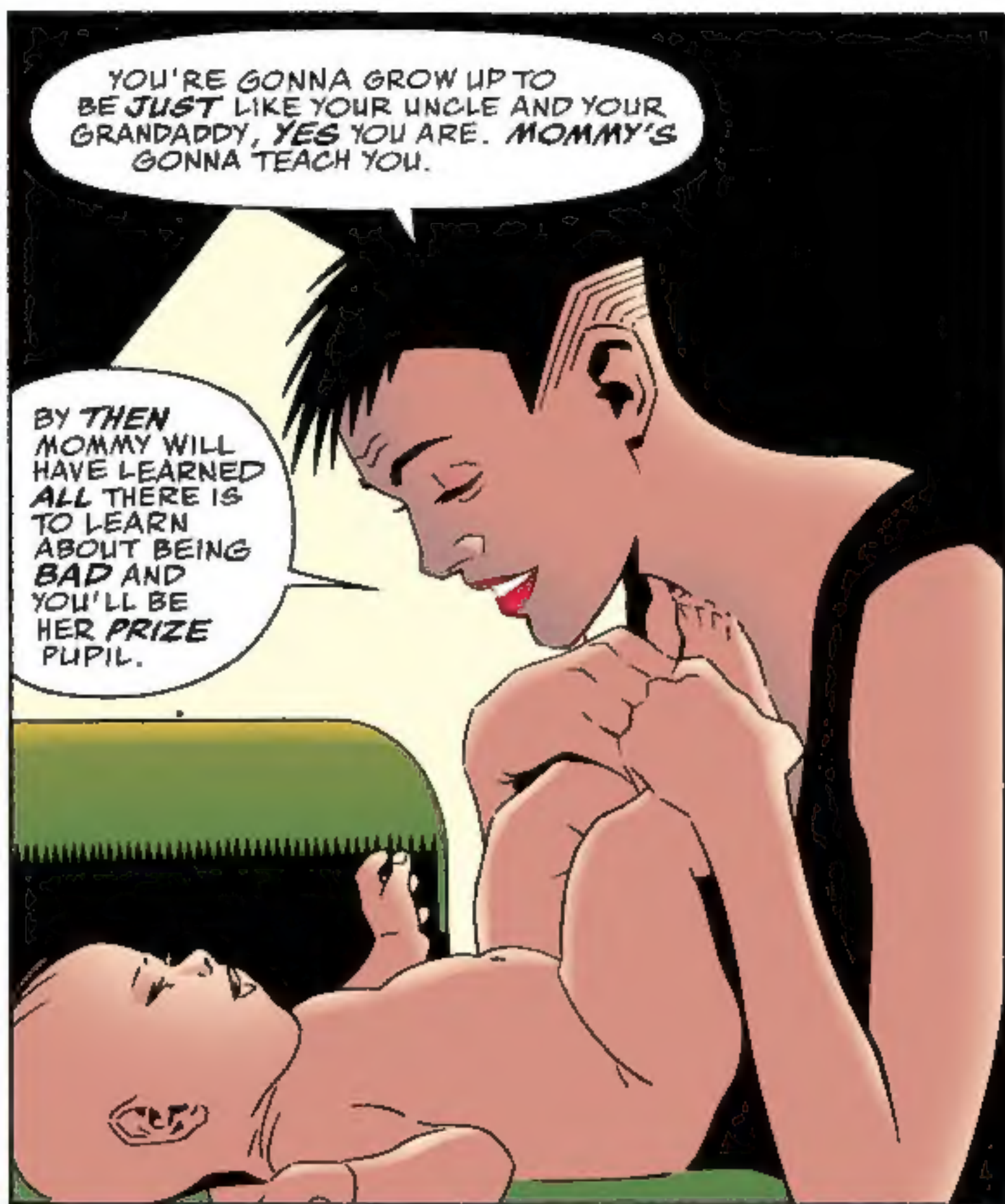






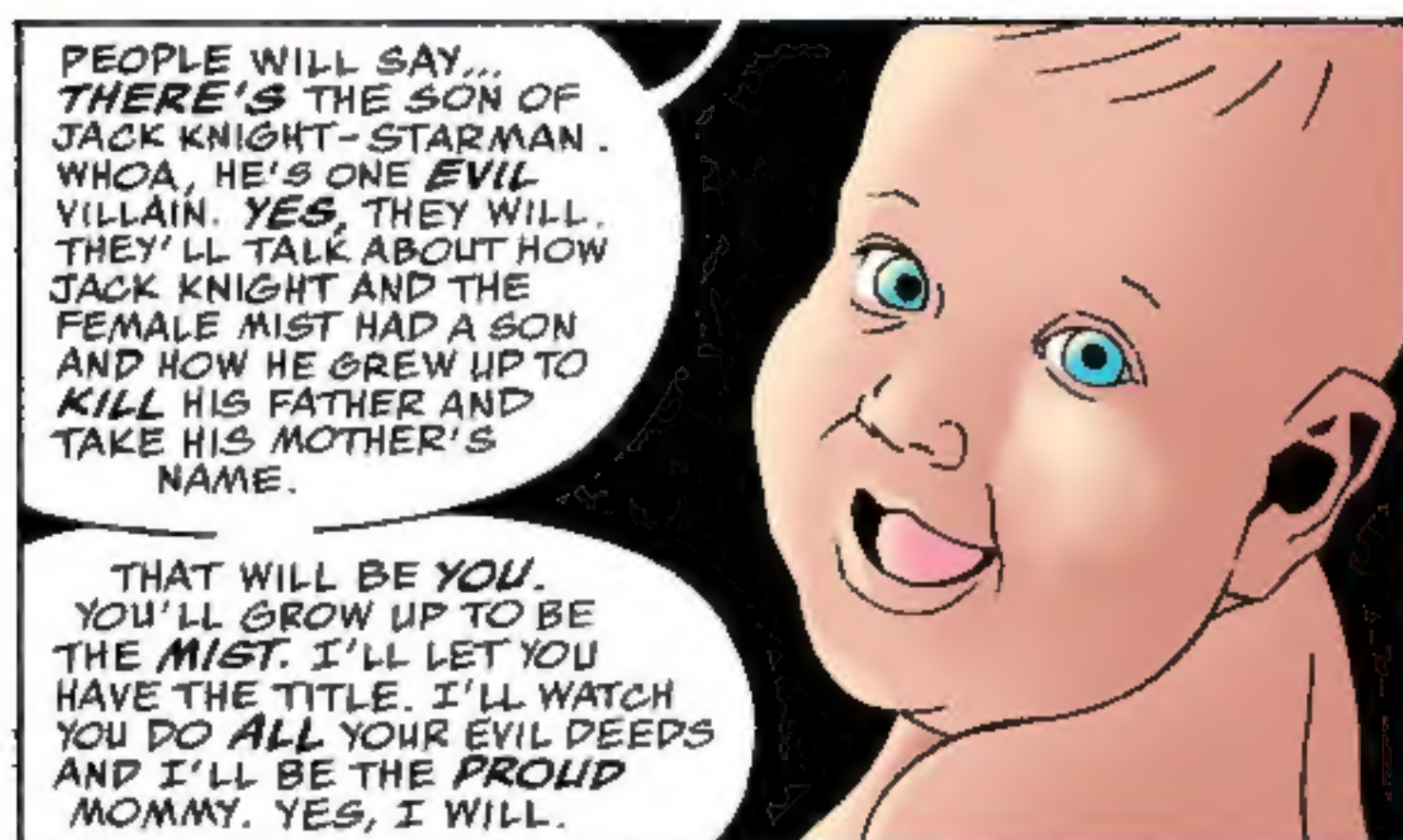
... 'CAUSE MOMMY IS BACK WITH HER OWN SPECIAL GUY.

THAT'S WHAT YOU ARE. YOU'RE MY OWN SPECIAL LITTLE MAN.



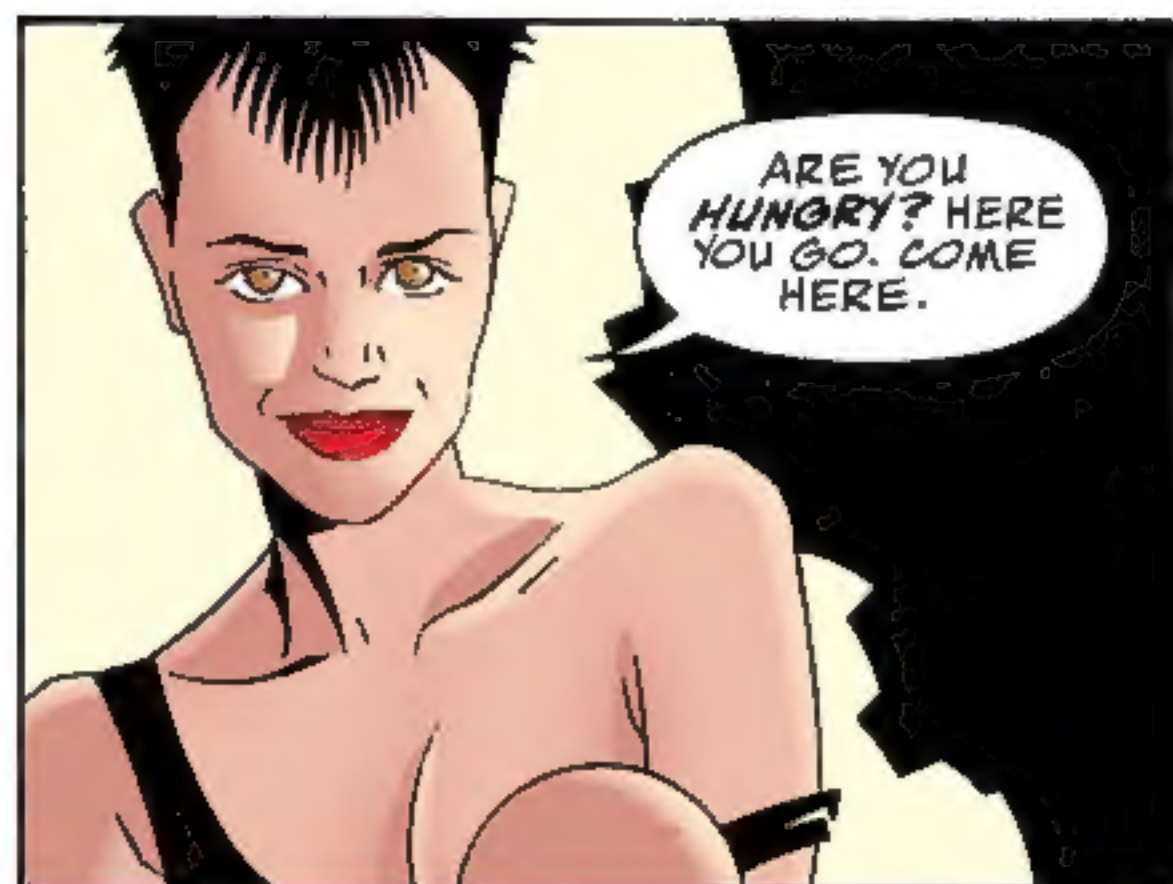
YOU'RE GONNA GROW UP TO BE JUST LIKE YOUR UNCLE AND YOUR GRANDADDY, YES YOU ARE. MOMMY'S GONNA TEACH YOU.

BY THEN MOMMY WILL HAVE LEARNED ALL THERE IS TO LEARN ABOUT BEING BAD AND YOU'LL BE HER PRIZE PUPIL.

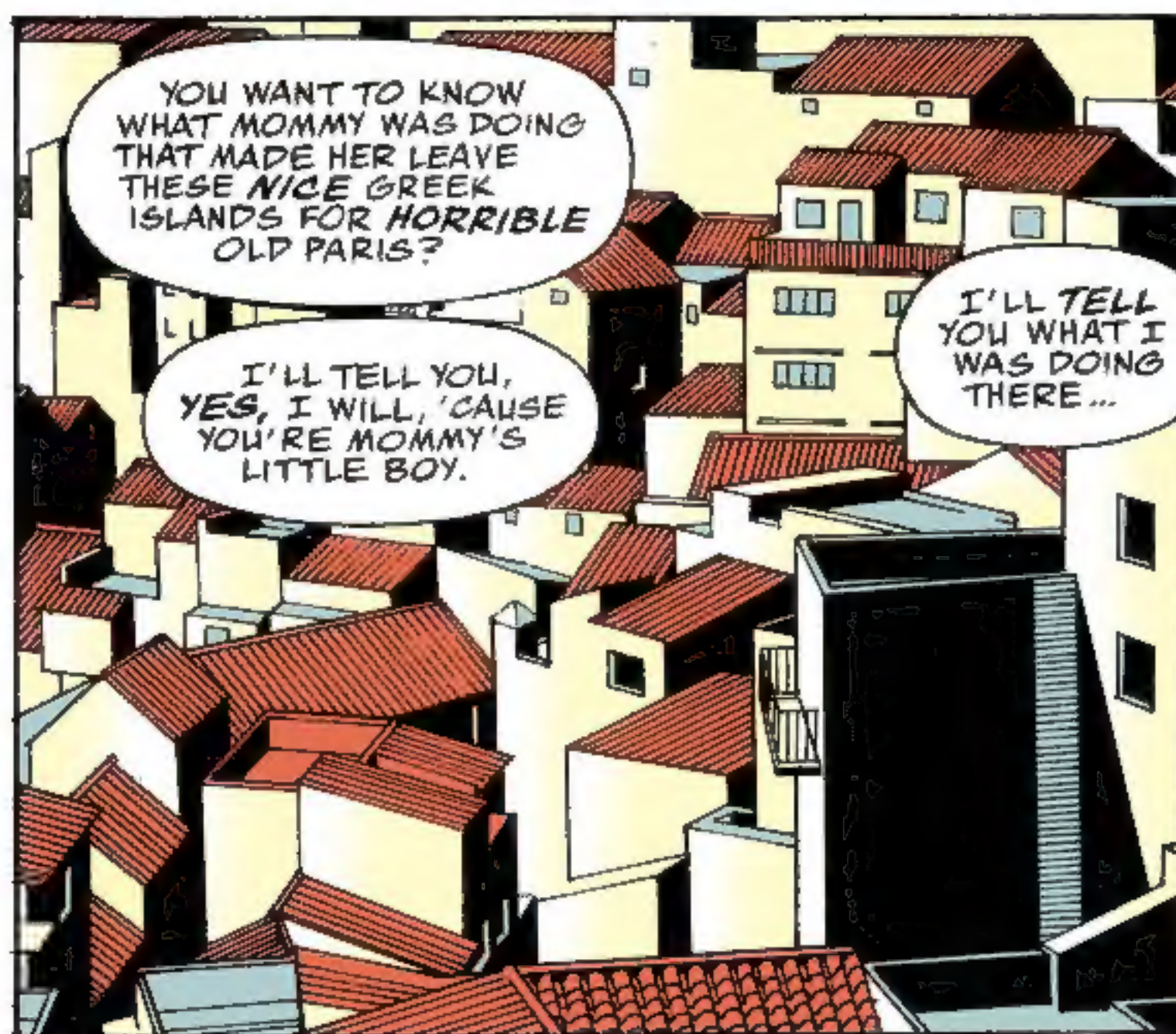


PEOPLE WILL SAY... THERE'S THE SON OF JACK KNIGHT-STARMAN. WHOA, HE'S ONE EVIL VILLAIN. YES, THEY WILL. THEY'LL TALK ABOUT HOW JACK KNIGHT AND THE FEMALE MIST HAD A SON AND HOW HE GREW UP TO KILL HIS FATHER AND TAKE HIS MOTHER'S NAME.

THAT WILL BE YOU. YOU'LL GROW UP TO BE THE MIST. I'LL LET YOU HAVE THE TITLE. I'LL WATCH YOU DO ALL YOUR EVIL DEEDS AND I'LL BE THE PROUD MOMMY. YES, I WILL.



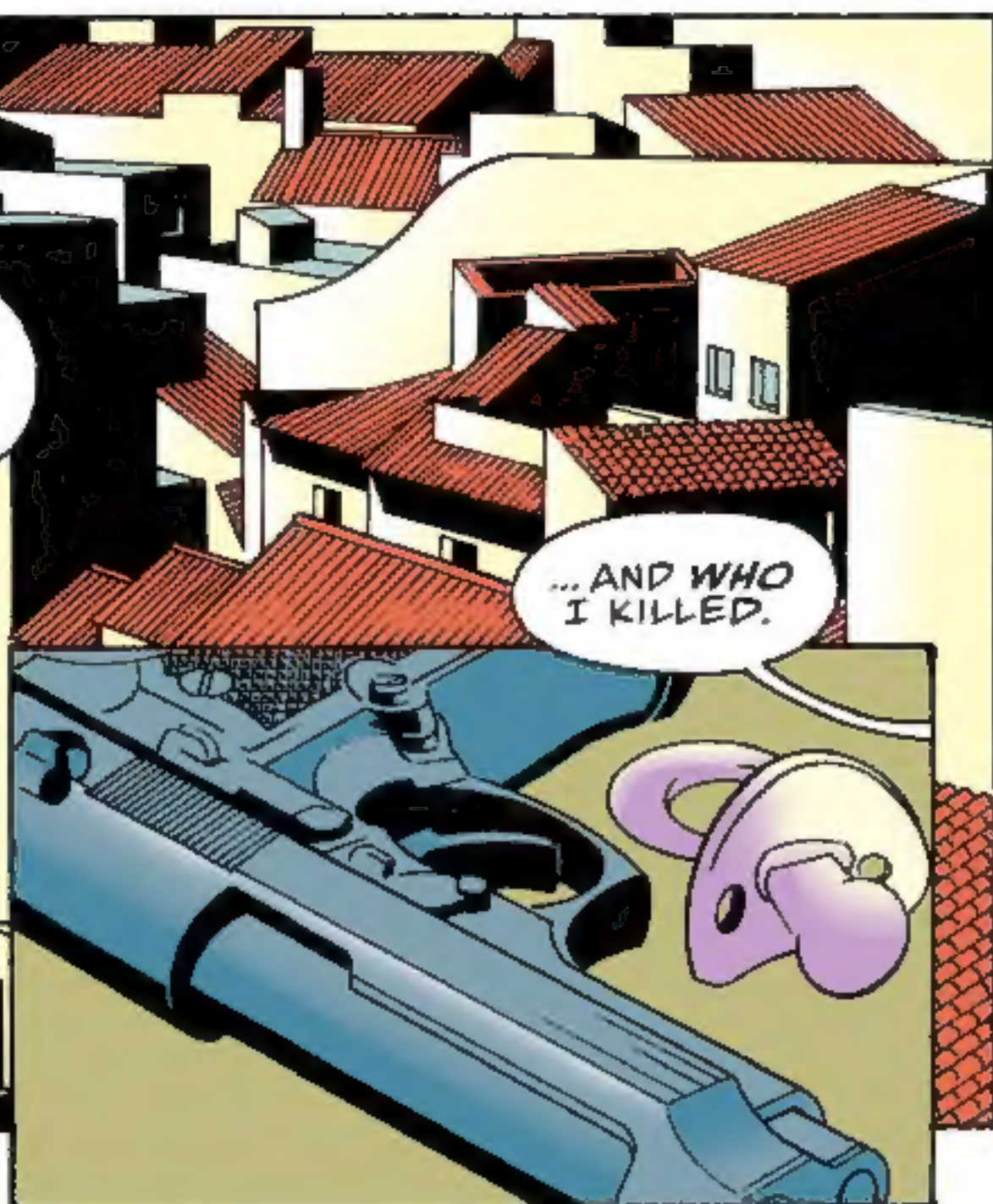
ARE YOU HUNGRY? HERE YOU GO. COME HERE.



YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT MOMMY WAS DOING THAT MADE HER LEAVE THESE NICE GREEK ISLANDS FOR HORRIBLE OLD PARIS?

I'LL TELL YOU, YES, I WILL, 'CAUSE YOU'RE MOMMY'S LITTLE BOY.

I'LL TELL YOU WHAT I WAS DOING THERE...



...AND WHO I KILLED.



# ...LA FRATERNITE DE JUSTICE ET LIBERTE!

SO LET ME  
BEGIN ZE FIRST  
OFFICIAL MEET-  
ING OF...

IN OTHER  
WORDS, THE FRENCH  
EQUIVALENT OF  
THE JUSTICE  
LEAGUE.

revs  
COSMET

JAMES ROBINSON - writer  
DUSTY ABELL - penciller  
DEXTER VINES - inker  
pgs. 3, 5-9, 15-19  
NORMAN LEE - inker  
pgs. 1, 2, 4, 10-14, 20-22  
NOELLE GIDDINGS - colorist  
QAKLEY / N.J.Q. letterers  
HUCK KIM - assistant editor  
ARCHIE GOODWIN - editor

OUI, MON  
AMI. AND NOW  
ZE ROLL  
CALL...

JACK KNIGHT  
created by  
JAMES ROBINSON  
& TONY HARRIS

BLUE DEVIL.

ICE MAIDEN.

FIRESTORM.

AMAZING  
MAN.

ET MOI, CRIMSON  
FOX. NOW WE CAN  
GET DOWN TO  
BUSINESS.





SO, WE  
'AVE OUR  
FIRST  
MISSION.

ZE COMTALLE DIAMONDS  
ON LOAN FROM MARKOVIA ARE ON  
EXHIBIT 'ERE IN PARIS.

ZE FRENCH  
GOVERNMENT IS CONCERNED  
ZAT SOMEONE MIGHT TRY TO  
STEAL THEM. ZEY REQUESTED  
OUR SERVICES. AND AS WE ARE  
PARTLY SUBSIDIZED BY MY  
COUNTRY, I DON'T THINK IT'S  
A REQUEST WE CAN  
REFUSE.



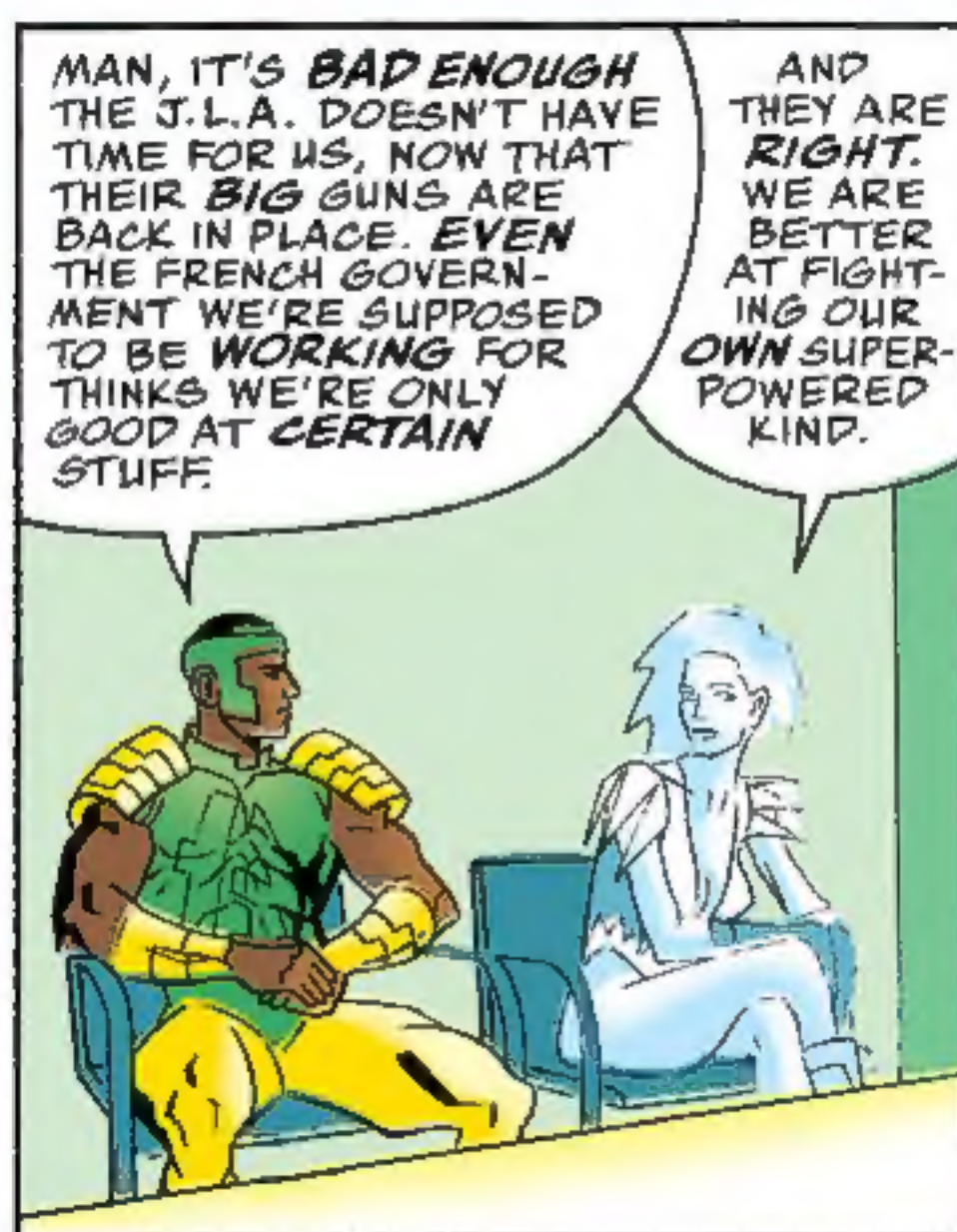
HAVE THERE BEEN ANY **THREATS**? ANY  
REASON WHY YOUR GOVERNMENT WOULD  
BE SO CONCERNED?

**NON.** IN FACT, ZERE IS  
MORE LIKELIHOOD OF ALGERIAN  
TERRORISTS MAKING A **BOMB**  
ATTEMPT ON ONE OF FRANCE'S  
TOURIST ATTRACTIONS...



...AT LEAST ACCORDING  
TO ZE **LATEST** WORD ZAT  
ZE FRENCH SECRET SERVICE  
HAS **INTERCEPTED**.

BUT ZEY  
REASON ZAT ZEY'RE  
USED TO TERRORIST  
ATTACKS. ZE POLICE  
ARE **TRAINED** IN SUCH  
THINGS. BUT BIG RICHES  
TEND TO ATTRACT **BIG**  
VILLAINS... **ZUPER** VILLAINS  
...AND ZAT IS WHERE  
WE HAVE ZE **TRAIN-**  
ING, **NON**?



MAN, IT'S **BAD ENOUGH**  
THE J.L.A. DOESN'T HAVE  
TIME FOR US, NOW THAT  
THEIR **BIG GUNS** ARE  
BACK IN PLACE. **EVEN**  
THE FRENCH GOVERN-  
MENT WE'RE SUPPOSED  
TO BE **WORKING** FOR  
THINKS WE'RE ONLY  
GOOD AT **CERTAIN**  
STUFF.

AND  
THEY ARE  
**RIGHT**.  
WE ARE  
BETTER  
AT FIGHT-  
ING OUR  
OWN SUPER-  
POWERED  
KIND.



BUT DO **NOT** LET ZIS  
LOWLY START FOR OUR  
GROUP PUT YOU **OFF**.  
IF WE ARE A **SUCCESS**  
'ERE, WE CAN **SPREAD**  
OUT TO BELGIUM AND  
SPAIN. BEFORE  
**LONG--**





YEAH, THAT'S JUST WHERE I WANT TO BE IN FIVE YEARS' TIME. A MEMBER OF THE JUSTICE LEAGUE OF BELGIUM!



NON, WHAT I WAS TRYING TO SAY IS ZAT BEFORE LONG, OUR SUCCESSES WILL MAKE US **KNOWN** THROUGHOUT EUROPE. WE WITH BE ZE JUSTICE LEAGUE OF EUROPE AGAIN. I **SWEAR IT!**

YEAH, WELL, THE THING TO REMEMBER IS THAT WE HAVE TO DO IT ONE MISSION AT A TIME. ONE JOB AT A TIME. BUILD ON THAT.



I AGREE WITH ICE. IF WE DO IT RIGHT, WE'LL BE BIG NAMES ONCE AGAIN.



ERR... WE NEVER WERE BIG NAMES TO BEGIN WITH. EXCEPT FOR MAYBE FIRE-STORM.



WELL, WE WILL BE BIG! AND SUPERMAN AND WONDER WOMAN AND THAT NEW GREEN LANTERN WHO *ISN'T* EVEN HAL JORDAN AND THEY STILL ACT LIKE HE'S A BIG CHEESE...

...ALL OF THEM CAN KISS MY DEVIL'S TAIL. JUST LIKE WITCHES USED TO ON BLACK SABBATHS.



WHATEVER, MAN.

LET'S JUST GET THIS DONE.

THE COMTALLE DIAMONDS AIN'T GONNA GUARD THEMSELVES.





SO HERE WE ARE.

NICE BUILDING.

A BIT MODERN FOR MY TASTES.



OUI. FIRST ZEY PUT ZAT PYRAMID IN FRONT OF ZE LOUVRE, AND NOW ZIS. PARIS... MY PARIS... EVEN ZE NAZIS COULD NOT DESTROY ITS BEAUTY. YET, TODAY IT ZEEMS ZE DESIGNERS AND CITY PLANNERS ARE **SUCCESSING** WHERE HITLER'S FORCES FAILED, NON ?



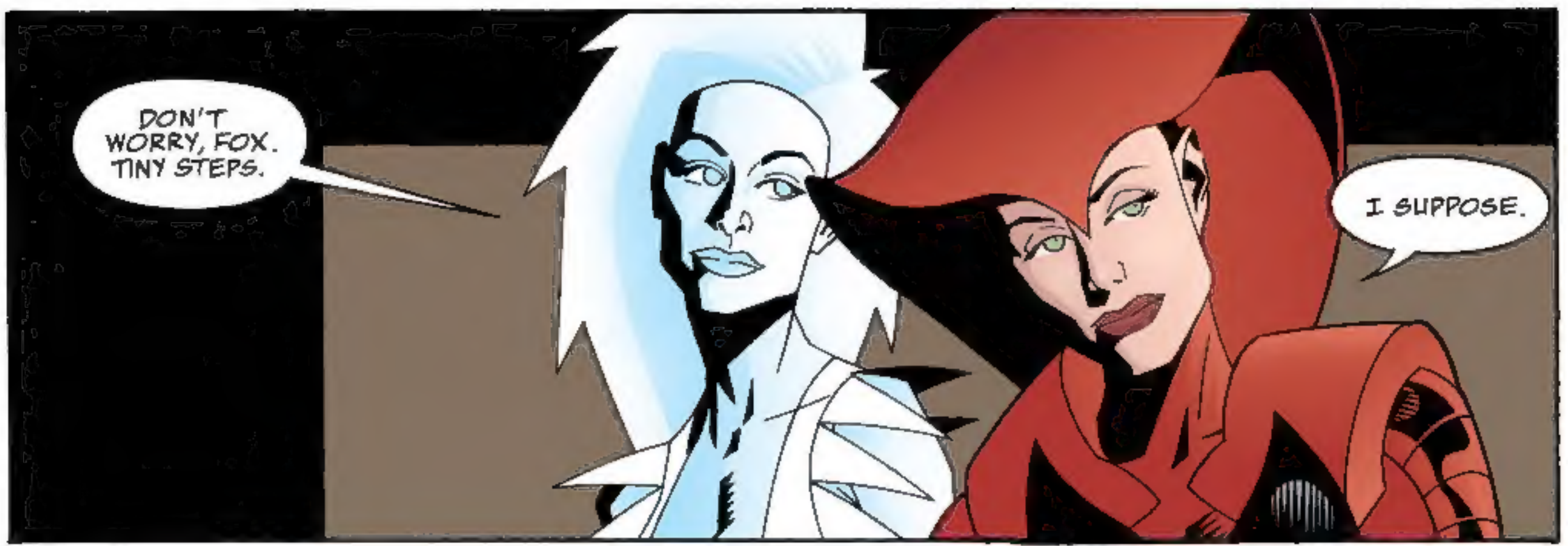
IT'S NOT SO BAD. THOUGH I ADMIT, I'VE BEEN HERE FOR THE LAST TWO DAYS OBSERVING SECURITY SO **MAYBE** I'M USED TO IT.

AHHH, ZE J.L.A. 'AVE ARRIVED.

WE ARE **NOT** ZE J.L.A., MON AMI. WE ARE **YOUR** HEROES. THE HEROES OF FRANCE. WE ARE--

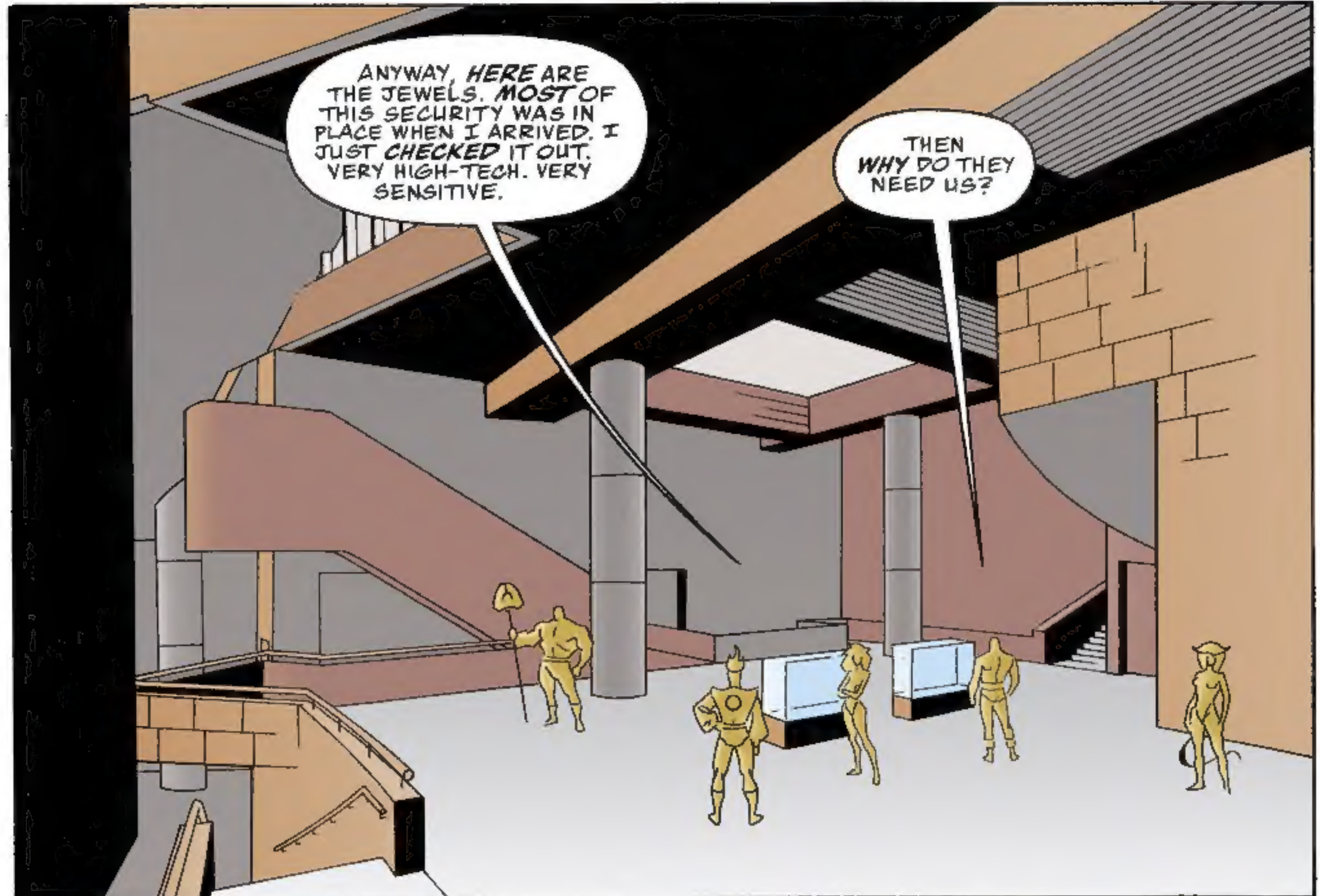
THE J.L.A. OUI ? THE HEROES OF **EVERY** NATION.





DON'T WORRY, FOX. TINY STEPS.

I SUPPOSE.



ANYWAY, *HERE* ARE THE JEWELS. *MOST* OF THIS SECURITY WAS IN PLACE WHEN I ARRIVED. I JUST *CHECKED* IT OUT. VERY HIGH-TECH. VERY SENSITIVE.

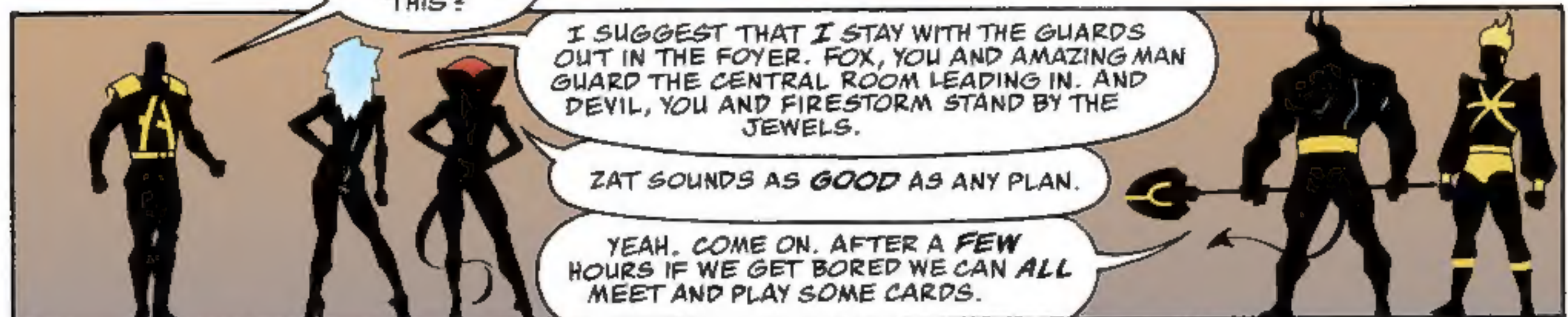
THEN WHY DO THEY NEED US?



EVEN A HIGH-TECH FORTRESS HAS ITS *DOGS* PATROLLING THE GROUNDS.

THAT'S JUST WHAT I NEEDED TO HEAR TO FEEL GOOD ABOUT MYSELF. BOW WOW.

ANYWAY, HOW ARE WE GOING TO DO THIS?



I SUGGEST THAT I STAY WITH THE GUARDS OUT IN THE FOYER. FOX, YOU AND AMAZING MAN GUARD THE CENTRAL ROOM LEADING IN. AND DEVIL, YOU AND FIRESTORM STAND BY THE JEWELS.

ZAT SOUNDS AS GOOD AS ANY PLAN.

YEAH. COME ON. AFTER A FEW HOURS IF WE GET BORED WE CAN ALL MEET AND PLAY SOME CARDS.





SO WHAT WAS IT LIKE?

WHAT WAS **WHAT** LIKE?

BACK IN THE **OLD DAYS**? WHEN YOU WERE A **PART** OF THE **BIG, BRIGHT JUSTICE LEAGUE**? BACK WHEN EVERYTHING WAS **GREAT** AND EASY TO UNDERSTAND?

OH. IT WAS... **ERR...** BIG AND BRIGHT AND GREAT AND EASY TO UNDERSTAND. THE WORLD WAS **SIMPLER**. ONLY A COUPLE OF YEARS AGO, BUT THERE HAVE BEEN **SUCH CHANGES**.

I WAS **YOUNGER** THEN. I WAS SIMPLY A "NUCLEAR SUPERHERO"... IF YOU CAN EVER CALL SUCH A THING SIMPLE. I **DIDN'T** KNOW I WAS EARTH'S FIRE ELEMENTAL. WHAT WAS IT LIKE THEN?

UM... NO ADVENTURE WENT ON FOR TOO LONG, I **DO** RECALL THAT. THINGS WERE MORE OPEN AND SHUT.

AND **NO ONE** DIED. AT LEAST NOT **OFTEN**. NOWADAYS YOU FLY OFF FOR A **MOMENT**, YOU COME BACK AND TWO OR THREE OF YOUR BUDDIES ARE **DEAD** IN THAT TIME.

YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT **REX**?

METAMORPHO? NO. NOT REALLY. HE WAS **NEVER** PART OF **MY** LEAGUE. HE WAS AN **OUTSIDER** WHEN THE **J.L.A.** WAS **BIG** IN MY LIFE.



ANYWAY...  
WHAT ABOUT YOU?  
BEING IN A TEAM  
IS A NEW THING  
...FOR YOU.

I REALIZE I *SHOULD*  
HAVE JOINED A TEAM BEFORE.  
BACK WHEN I HAD MY *OLD* LOOK.  
BEFORE NERON TRANSFORMED  
MY ARTIFICIAL "DEVIL'S" BODY  
INTO THIS *REAL* DEMONIC  
FORM.

IF I HAD  
*DONE* THAT...  
BEEN A PART OF  
THE BIG HERO  
WORLD THEN...  
I MIGHT HAVE  
FELT *BETTER*  
ABOUT THINGS.  
I MIGHT *NOT*  
HAVE TAKEN  
NERON'S  
OFFER.

BUT  
BACK THEN I  
WAS HAVING  
*FUN*. MY LIFE THEN  
...AT THE *START*... IT  
WAS SUCH A *LAUGH*.  
I DIDN'T FEEL THE  
*NEED* TO BE A PART  
OF THE BIGGER,  
*BADDER* PICTURE.

WELL,  
MAY OUR  
TOMORROWS  
BE *ALL* THAT  
OUR YESTER-  
DAYS WERE.

YEAH. ME, I  
HAVE *HOPES*.  
DESPITE THIS HOLE-  
IN-THE-GROUND  
GIG WE'VE BEEN  
GIVEN...

"... I HAVE SOME  
HIGH HOPES."

I'M GLAD  
ZIS IS US,  
WILLIAM.

US?

YOU KNOW...  
ZAT IT'S YOU AND  
ME WHO ARE TO-  
GETHER 'ERE.

AND  
WHY  
WOULD  
THAT  
BE?

BECAUSE...  
ERR... I DON'T  
KNOW IF IT'S  
*OBVIOUS*... I HAVE  
TRIED TO BE  
*SUBTLE* WHEN I  
TALK TO YOU...

AND YOU  
*SUCCEEDED*,  
'CAUSE I DON'T  
KNOW WHAT  
YOU'RE TALKING  
ABOUT.

I FIND YOU  
ATTRACTIVE.

OH.

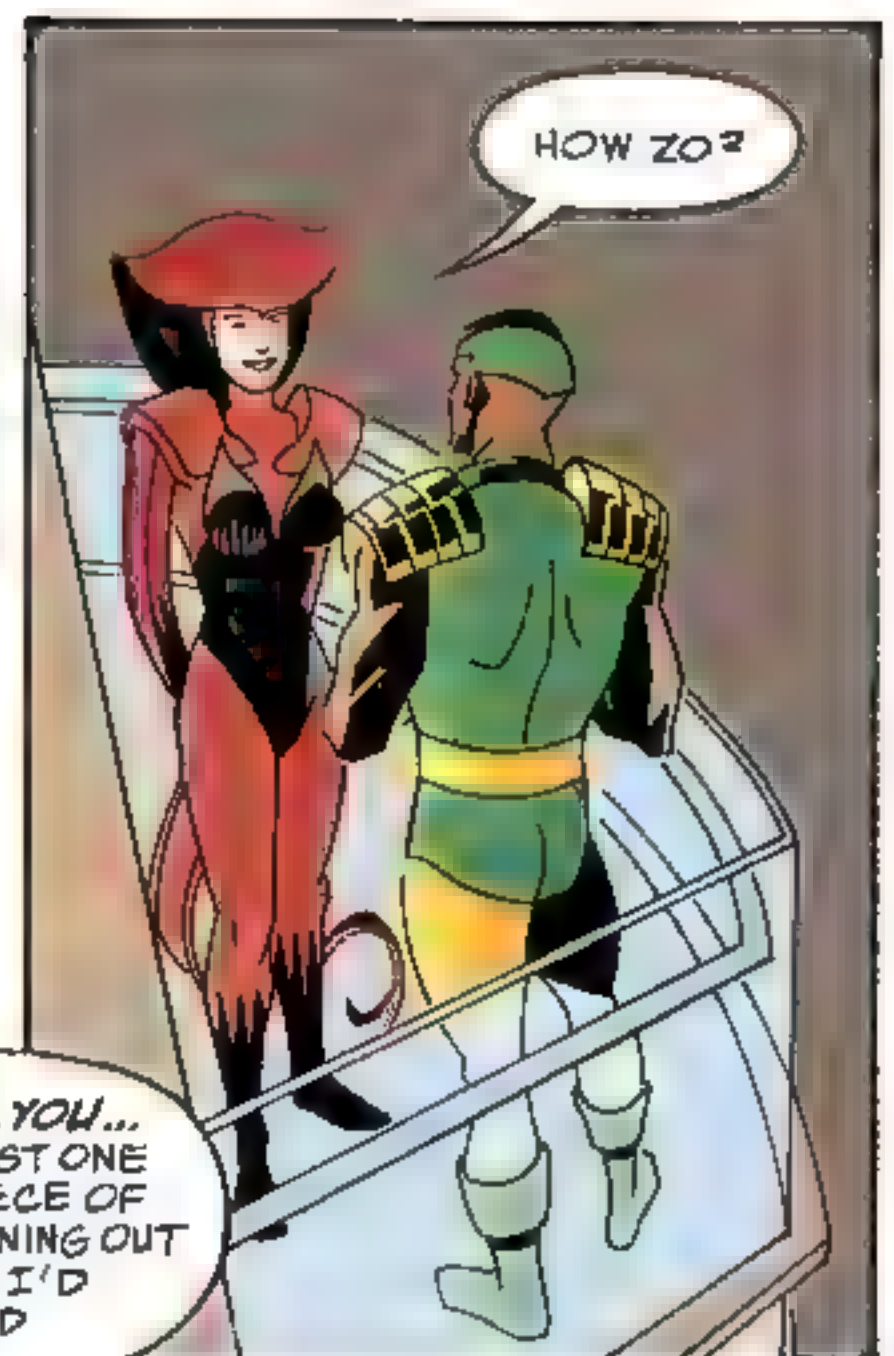
I'D LIKE  
TO SEE *MORE*  
OF YOU. I'D  
LIKE TO GO OUT  
WIZ YOU.



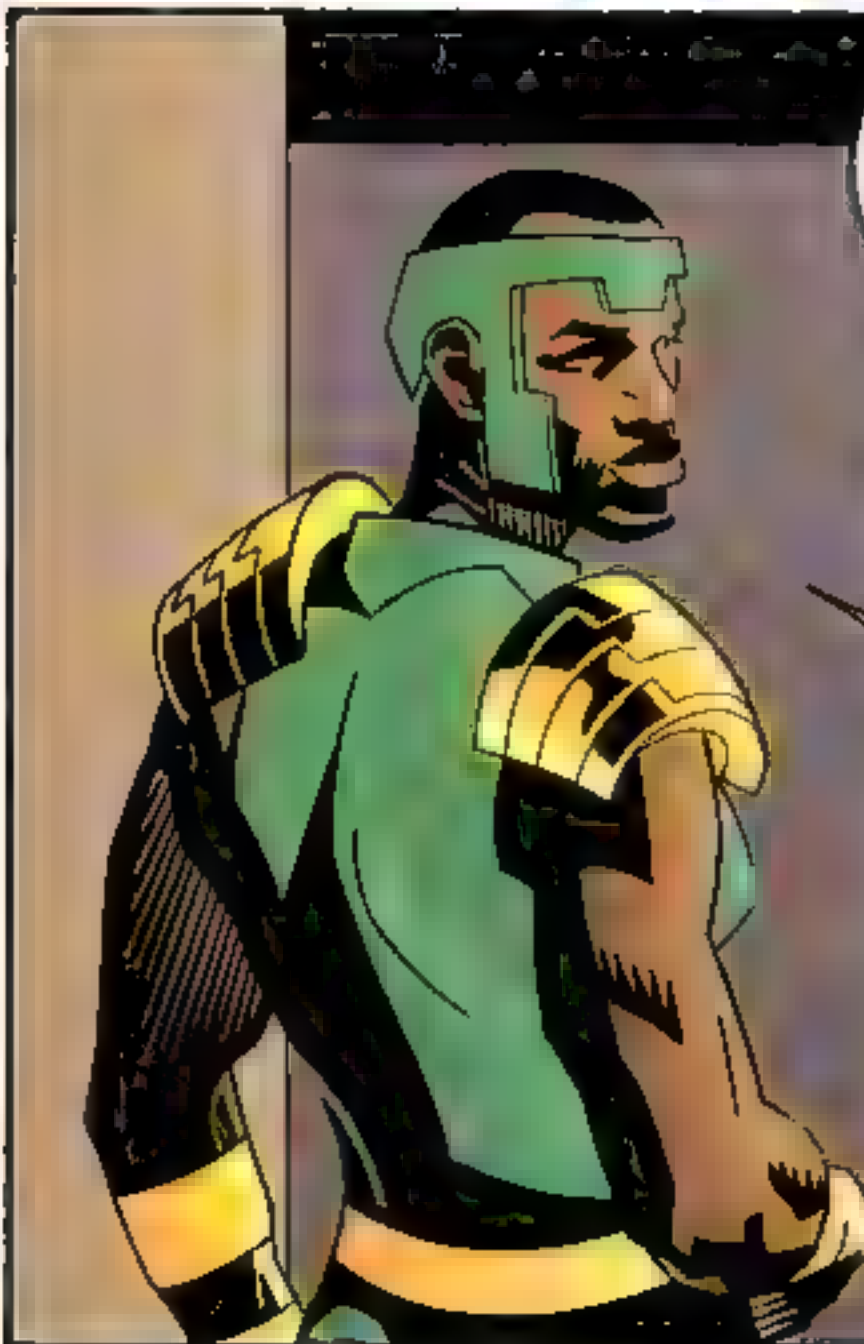


WE'LL HAVE *TIME* WHEN THIS MISSION IS DONE. I'D LIKE TO WINE AND DINE YOU, FOX.

THIS... YOU... IT'S JUST ONE MORE PIECE OF THINGS TURNING OUT THE WAY I'D HOPED



HOW ZO?



PARIS. IT'S ALWAYS BEEN A PLACE WHERE **BLACK** AMERICANS COULD FIND **HAPPINESS**. YOU PUT UP A **STATUE** HONORING THE **BLACK AMERICAN** SERVICEMEN AFTER THE **FIRST WORLD WAR**.

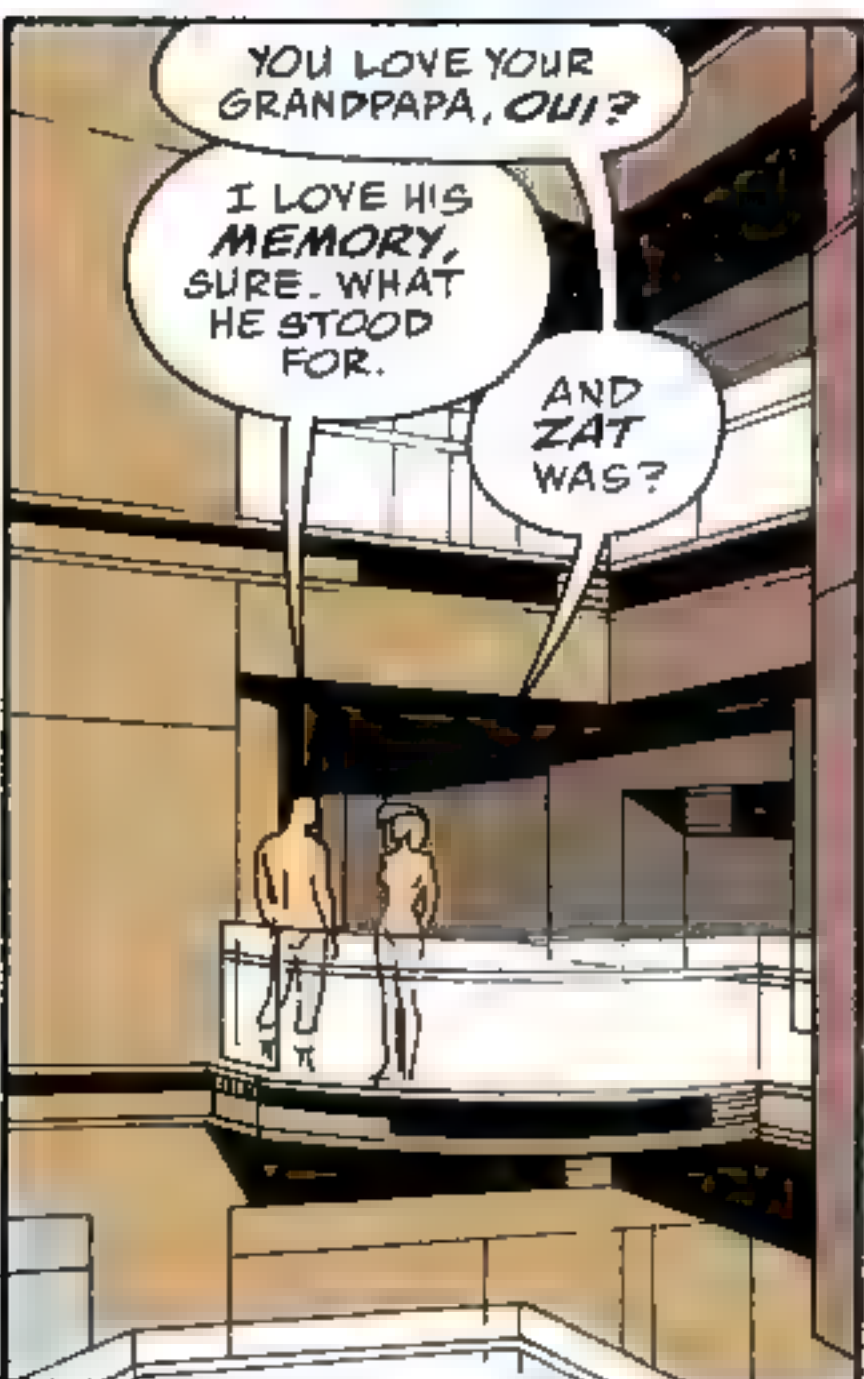
BACK THEN, OUR OWN COUNTRY WANTED TO **FORGET** WE EVER FOUGHT IN THE SAME BATTLES.

'N **THIS** IS WHERE **JAMES BALDWIN** CAME. AND **CHESTER HIMES** **JOSEPHINE BAKER**. I CAN'T HELP THINKING IF MY **GRANDDADDY** HAD COME HERE BACK AFTER THE WAR, HE COULD HAVE BEEN AS **BIG** AS, I DUNNO, **GREEN LANTERN** OR THE **FLASH** OR **STARMAN**.



THOUGH COME TO THINK OF IT, AMERICA EVEN TURNED ON THEM AFTER THE WAR.

ZAT WAS ZE **MCCARTHY ERA**, **CHER**. A LOT OF PEOPLE WERE **PERSECUTED ZEN**.



YOU LOVE YOUR GRANDPAPA, OUI?

I LOVE HIS **MEMORY**, SURE. WHAT HE STOOD FOR.

AND ZAT WAS?



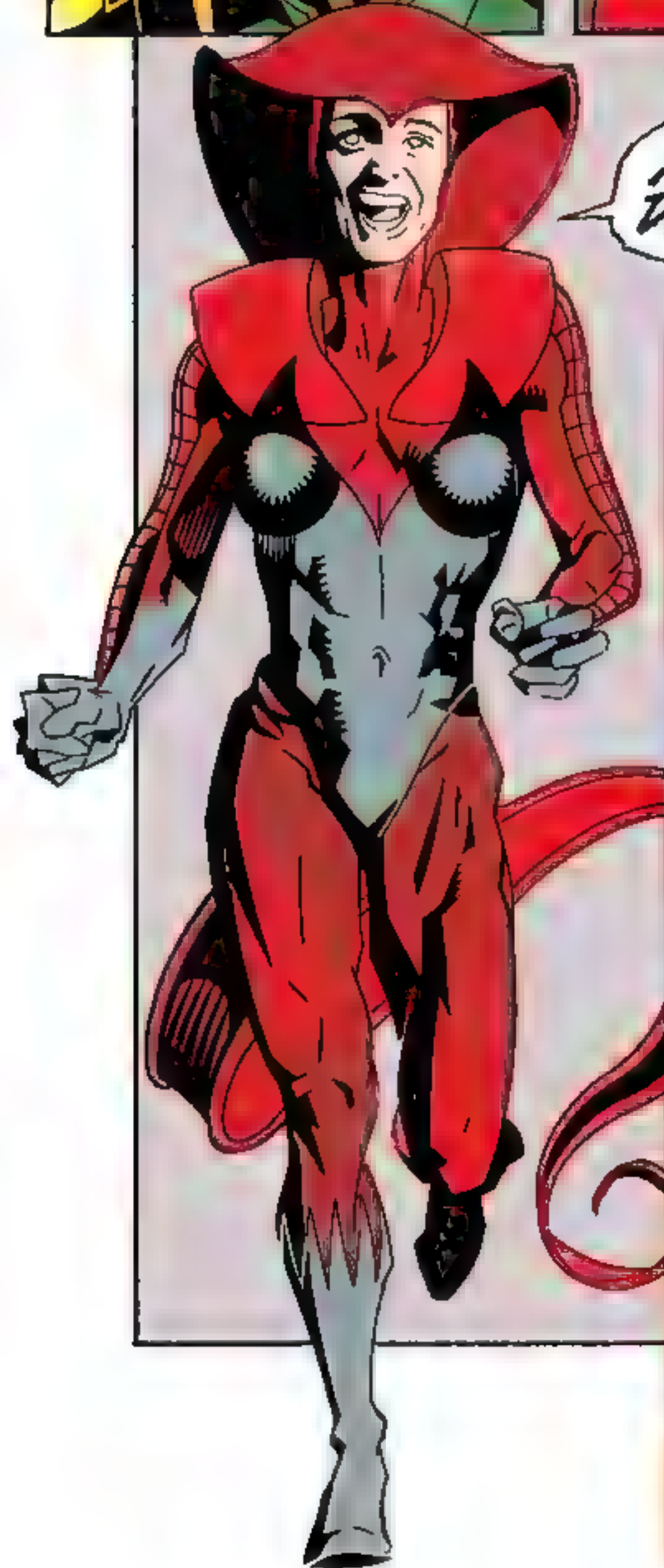
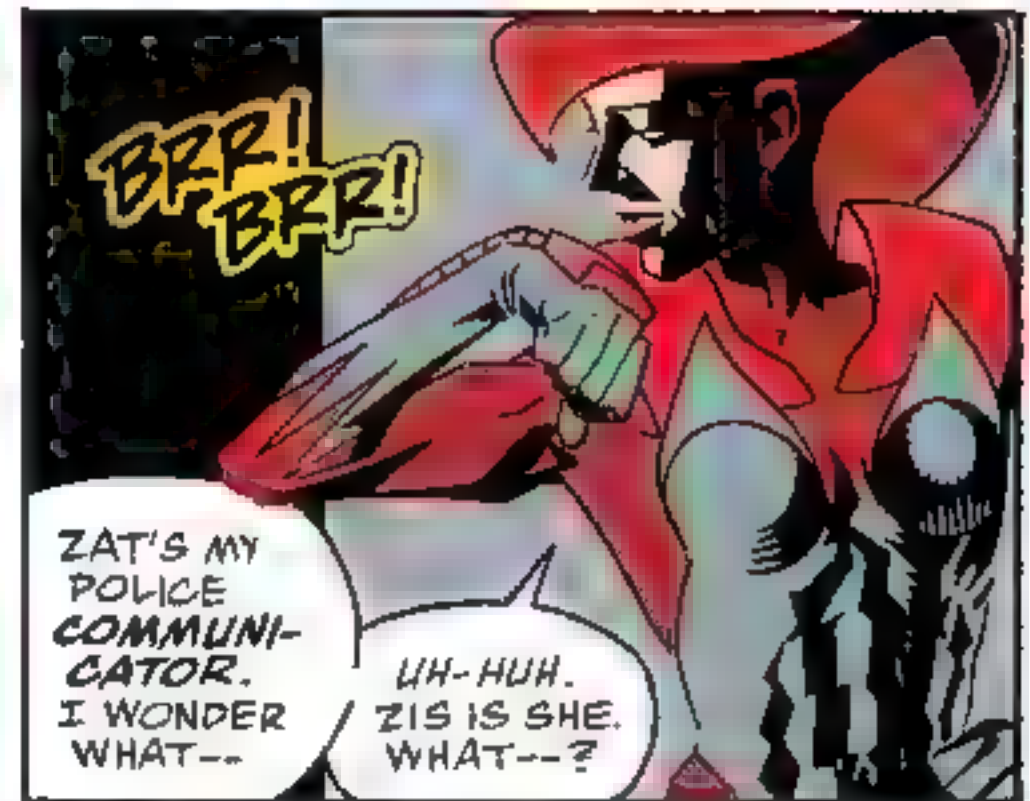
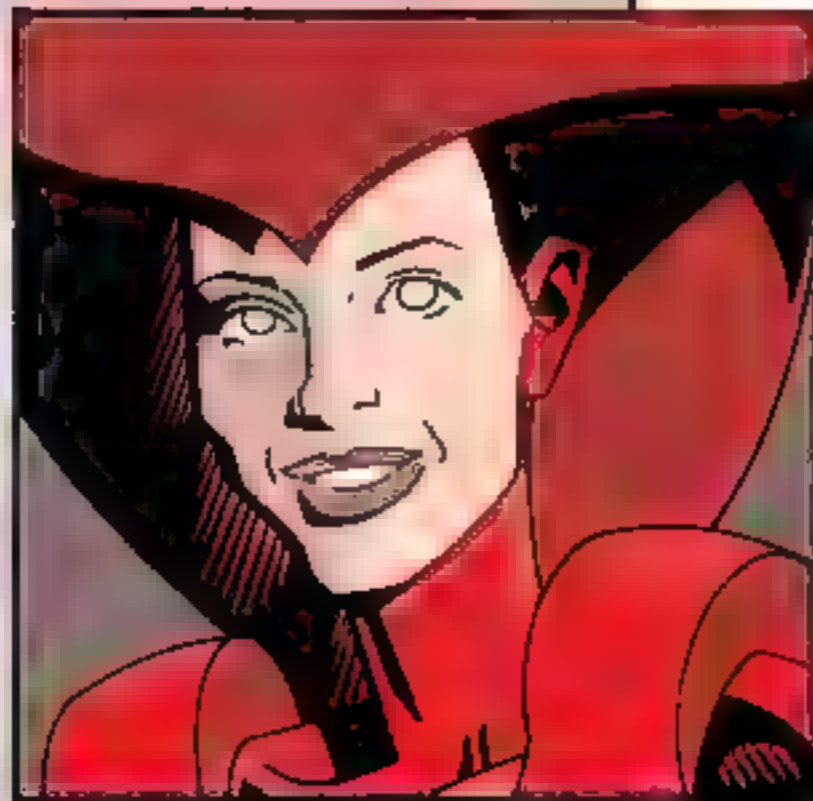
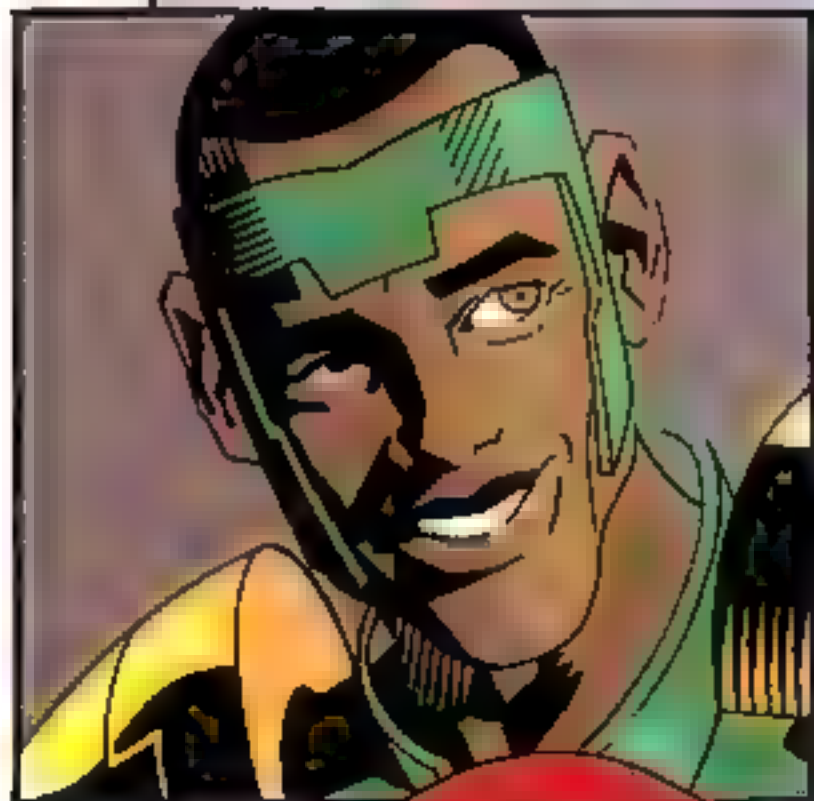
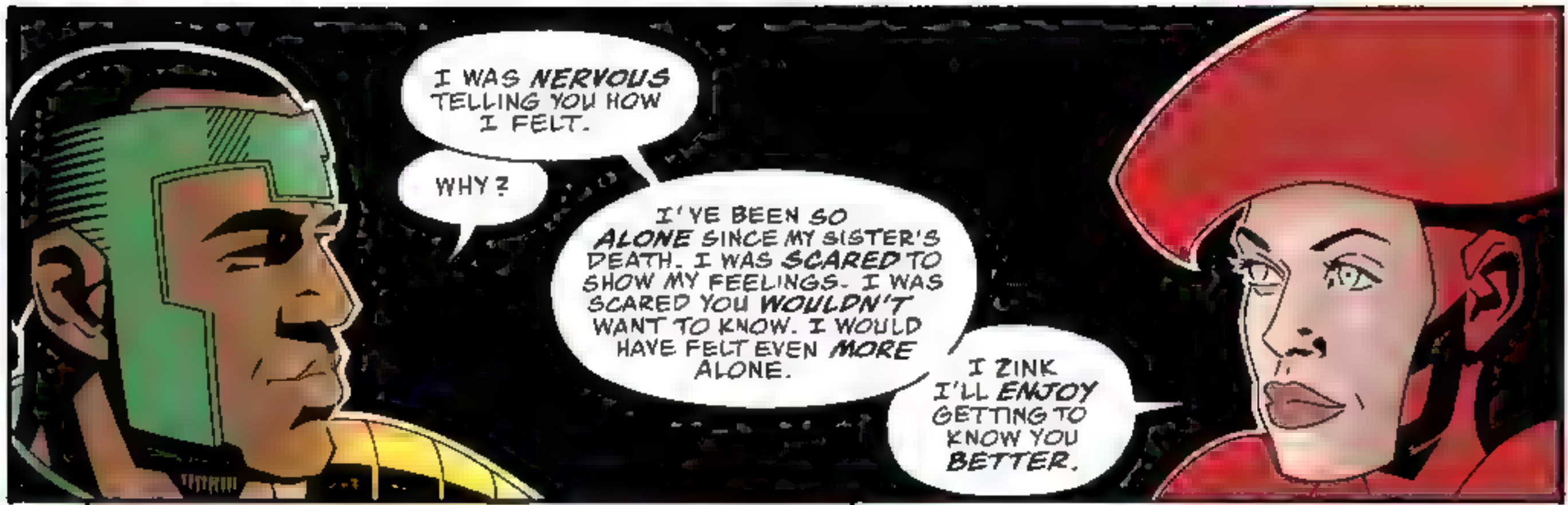
HE WAS THE **FIRST**. THE FIRST **BLACK HERO**. HE DID THE **RIGHT** THING NOT 'CAUSE OF THE **GLORY** OR THE **FAME** BUT 'CAUSE IT WAS **RIGHT**. HOW MANY OF THOSE **OTHER COSTUMED JACKASSES** FROM THE 1940S CAN SAY THE **SAME**?



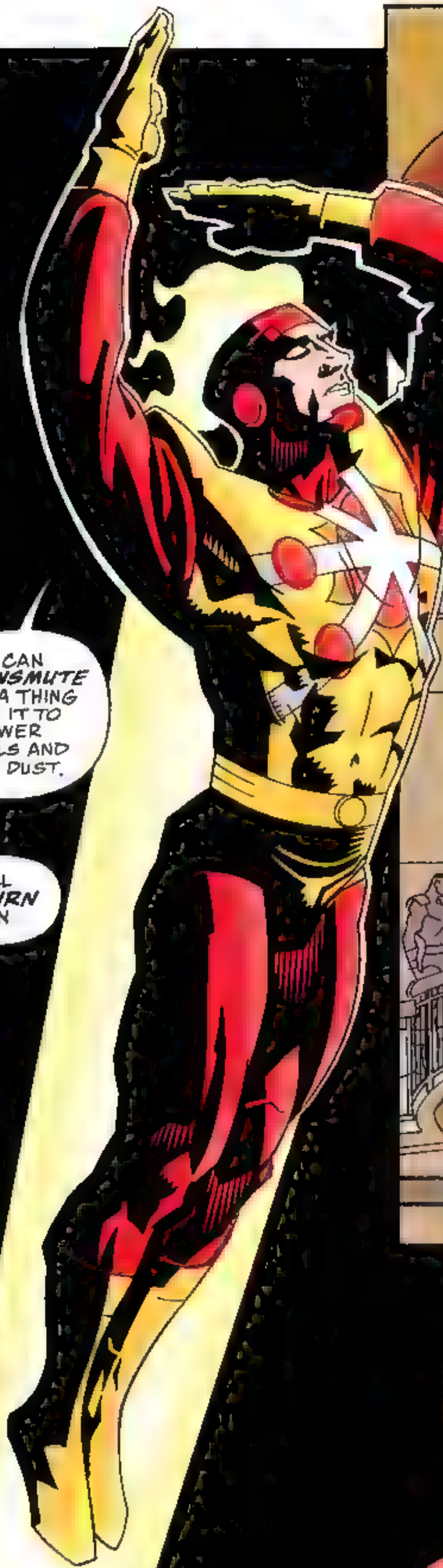
I ZINK YOU **JUDGE ZOSE** OTHERS TOO **HARSHLY**.

YEAH. MAYBE









I CAN  
TRANSMUTE  
SUCH A THING  
TURN IT TO  
FLOWER  
PETALS AND  
PIXIE DUST.

I'LL  
RETURN  
SOON



DO YOU  
THINK WE  
SHOULD GO,  
TOO?

NON, ZE GOVERNMENT  
ASKED FOR FIRESTORM. WE  
SHOULD STAY 'ERE AT OUR  
POSTS. AFTER ALL, WHAT  
COULD WE DO AGAINST A  
NUCLEAR WEAPON?



PERHAPS WE  
COULD FIND THE  
TERRORISTS.

OUI, PERHAPS,  
OUR NEXT MISSION  
PRESENTS ITSELF

I WILL  
INFORM ICE MAIDEN  
OF EVERYTHING ZAT'S  
OCCURRED. PERHAPS  
WHILE WE GUARD HERE,  
WE CAN PLAN OUR HUNT  
FOR ZE CRIMINALS.



ICE  
MAIDEN, I  
ZUGHT  
YOU SHOULD  
KNOW  
ZAT--





"SOMETHING  
BEHIND  
HER."

"THE CRIMSON FOX *MOVED*.  
MORE *REFLEX* THAN THOUGHT."



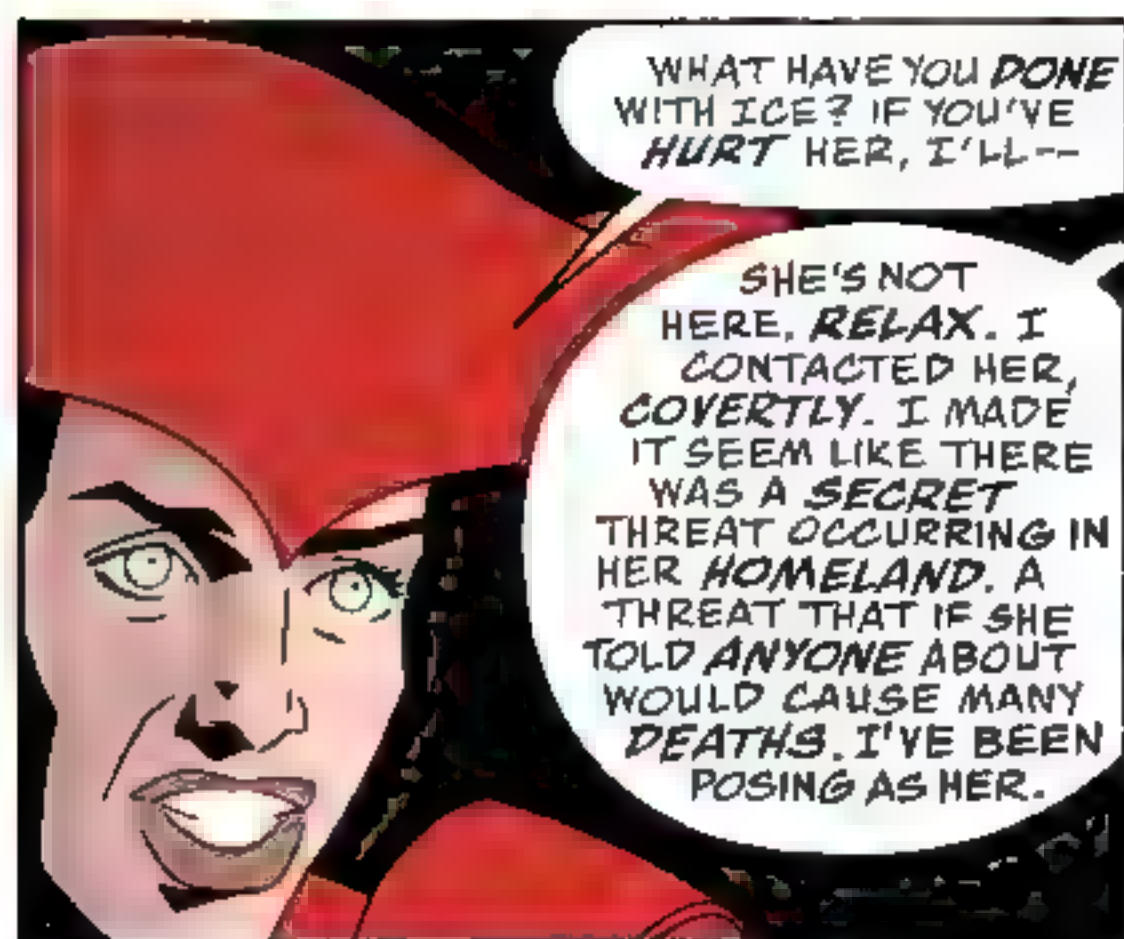
"SHE  
WAS  
SAFE."



--TRIED TO  
SLIT MY  
THROAT?  
WHO...?



MY NAME  
IS THE  
MIST.  
HELLO



WHAT HAVE YOU *DONE*  
WITH ICE? IF YOU'VE  
*HURT* HER, I'LL--

SHE'S NOT  
HERE. *RELAX*. I  
CONTACTED HER,  
*COVERTLY*. I MADE  
IT SEEM LIKE THERE  
WAS A *SECRET*  
THREAT OCCURRING IN  
HER *HOMELAND*. A  
THREAT THAT IF SHE  
TOLD *ANYONE* ABOUT  
WOULD CAUSE MANY  
*DEATHS*. I'VE BEEN  
POSING AS HER.

WHO *DOESN'T* WANT TO BE  
THOUGHT *WELL* OF IN THEIR OWN  
COUNTRY? CAN YOU *BLAME* HER?  
SHE LEFT BY DEAD OF NIGHT LAST  
WEEK. *NEXT* MORNING, I STEPPED  
INTO HER SHOES.

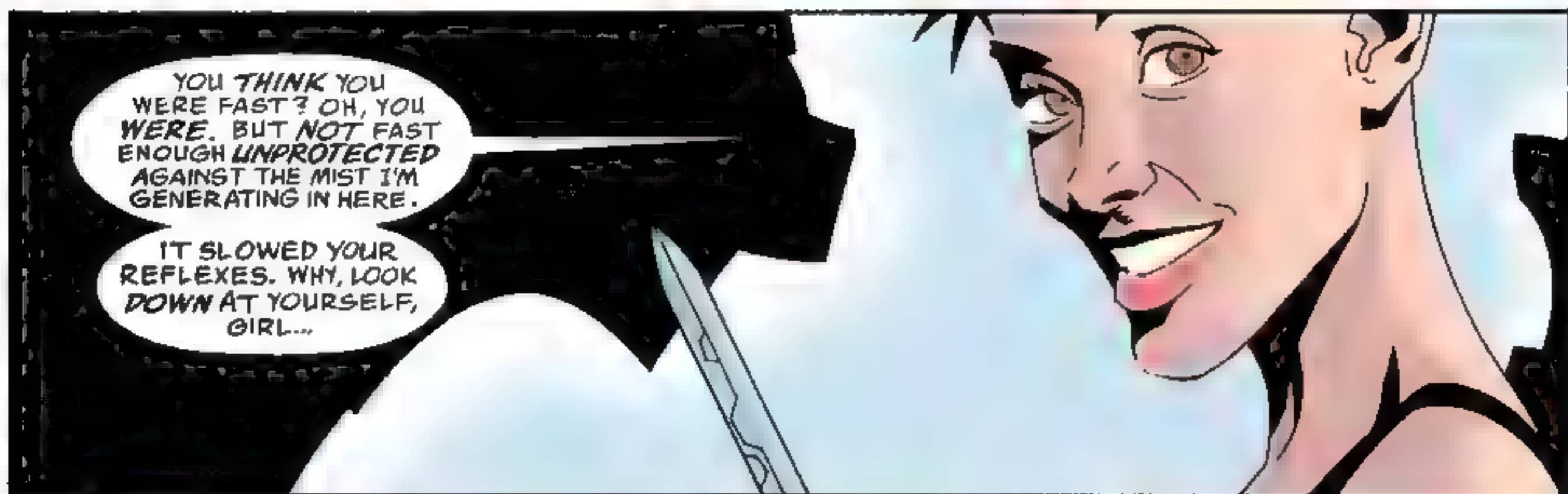
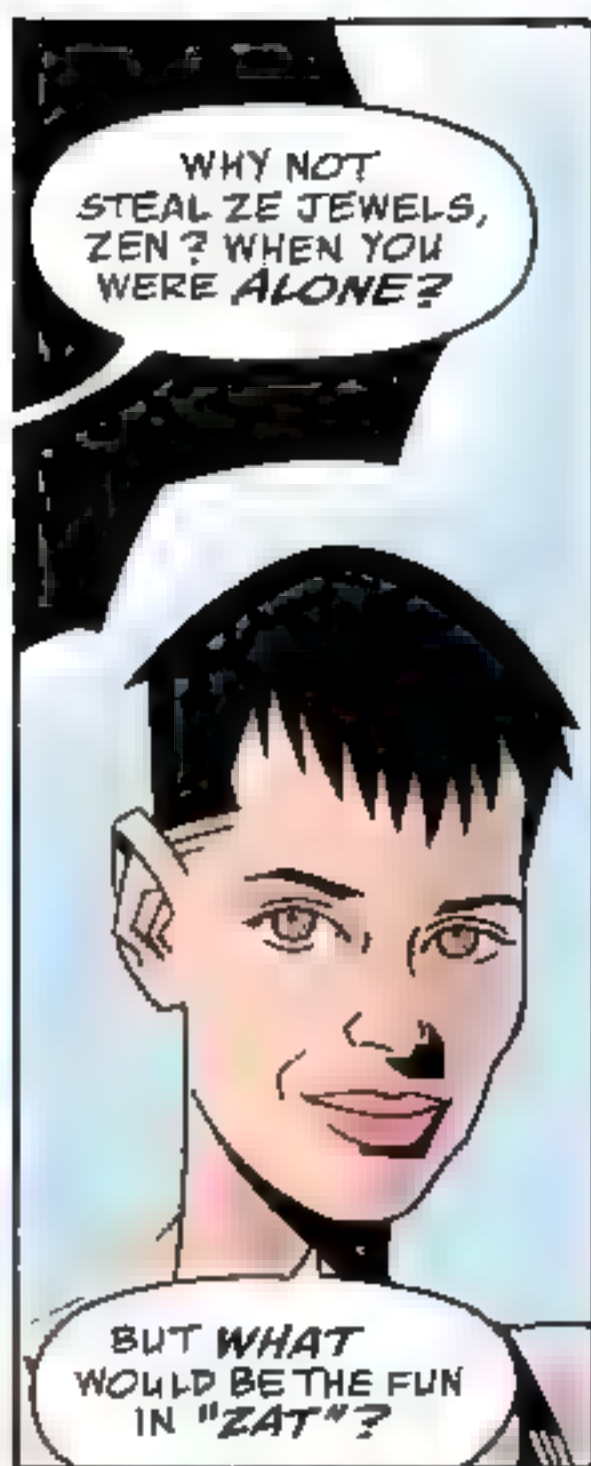
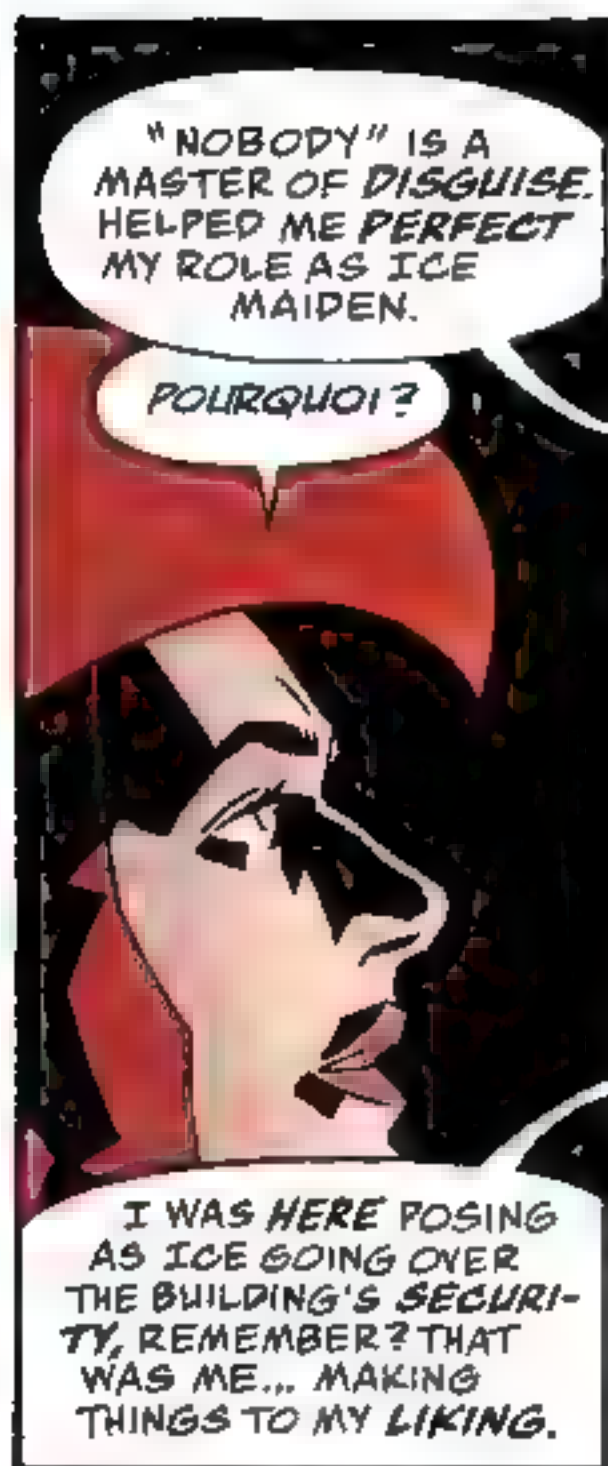
BUT SHE'LL *REALIZE*  
SHE WAS TRICKED--

NOT FOR *DAYS*. NOT UNTIL  
SHE'S GONE ON A MERRY BUT  
ULTIMATELY *FRUITLESS*  
CHASE.

I CONTACTED A MAN WHO  
FOUGHT AN ENEMY OF MINE. *STAR-*  
*MAN* BEING THE ENEMY. "*NOBODY*"  
BEING THE VILLAIN *STARMAN*  
MET IN BATTLE.









HELLO, AMAZING MAN. WELL, AREN'T YOU THE SEXY BOY OF SUPER-HEROICS?

WHO ARE YOU?

I'M THE CHICK WHO PUT A CRIMP IN YOUR LOVELIFE, HANDSOME. I JUST KILLED YOUR GIRLIE.

YOU KILLED FOX?! YOU BITCH! YOU KILLED FOX! I'LL--

YOU'LL WHAT? WITH MY SUPER-STRENGTH AND SUPER-FLIGHT I'LL DECIMATE YOU.

I'LL ABSORB THE POWER OF THIS WALL AND I'LL SHOW YOU--

WHEN I POSED AS ICE, I ADDED A VENEER TO EVERYTHING IN THIS ROOM. IT LOOKS LIKE STONE. IT ISN'T. IT'S DYED GLASS.

WHICH MAKES YOU "AMAZINGLY BRITTLE MAN."

OH, AND DID I SAY I HAD SUPER-STRENGTH?

WHAT I MEANT TO SAY WAS I HAD A SUPER BIG GUN.





NNOOOOO!

YOU  
KILLER! COLD  
HEARTED,  
COLD  
BLOODED  
KILLER!

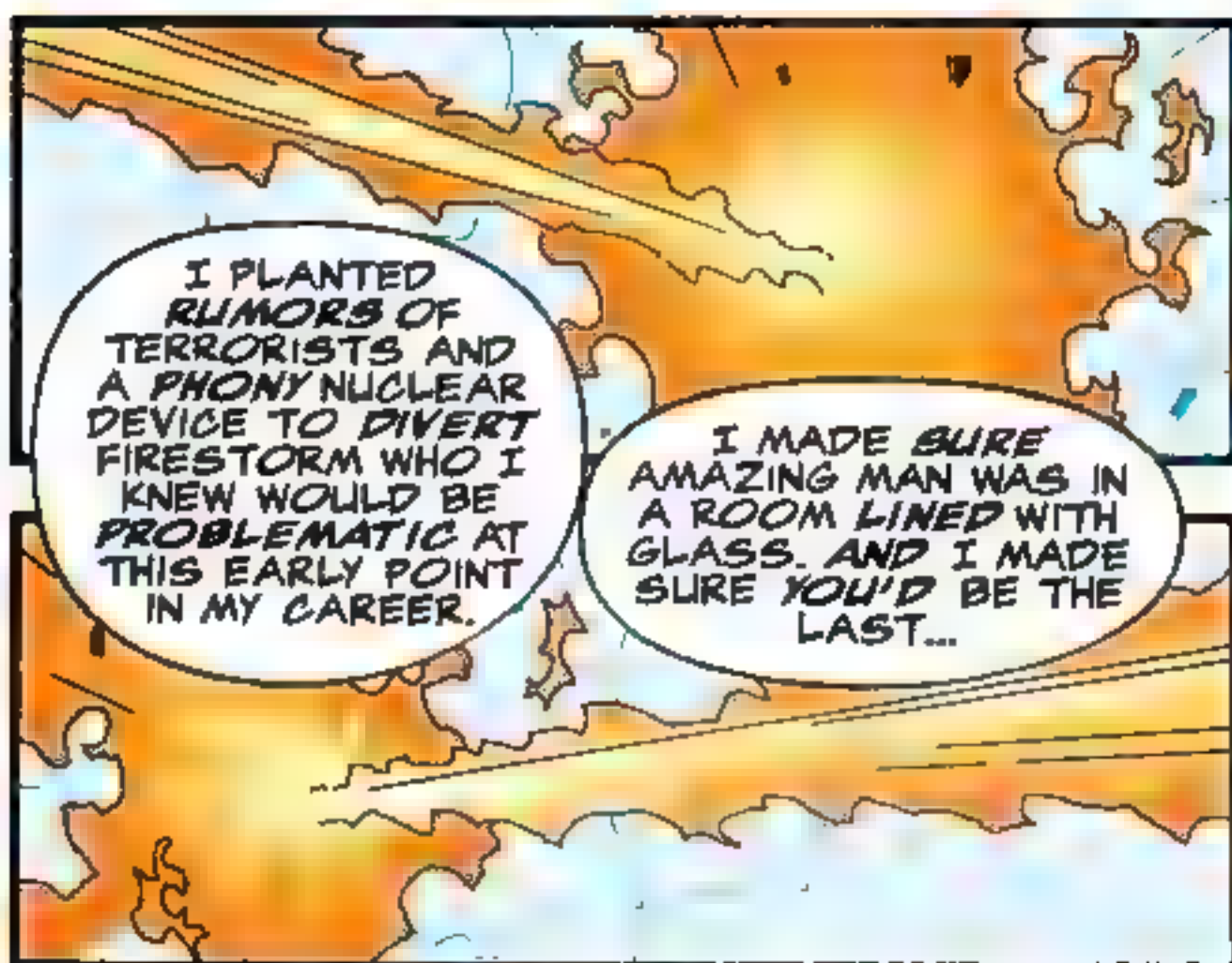


THAT'S RIGHT! I'VE  
KILLED SUPERHEROES.  
I WANTED TO SEE IF I  
COULD.

HOW MANY  
VILLAINS  
HAVE EVER  
SUCCEEDED  
IN WHAT I'VE  
DONE?

WHERE'S  
THE ART IN  
THEIR WORK?  
WHAT I DID  
TOOK SOME  
PLANNING.





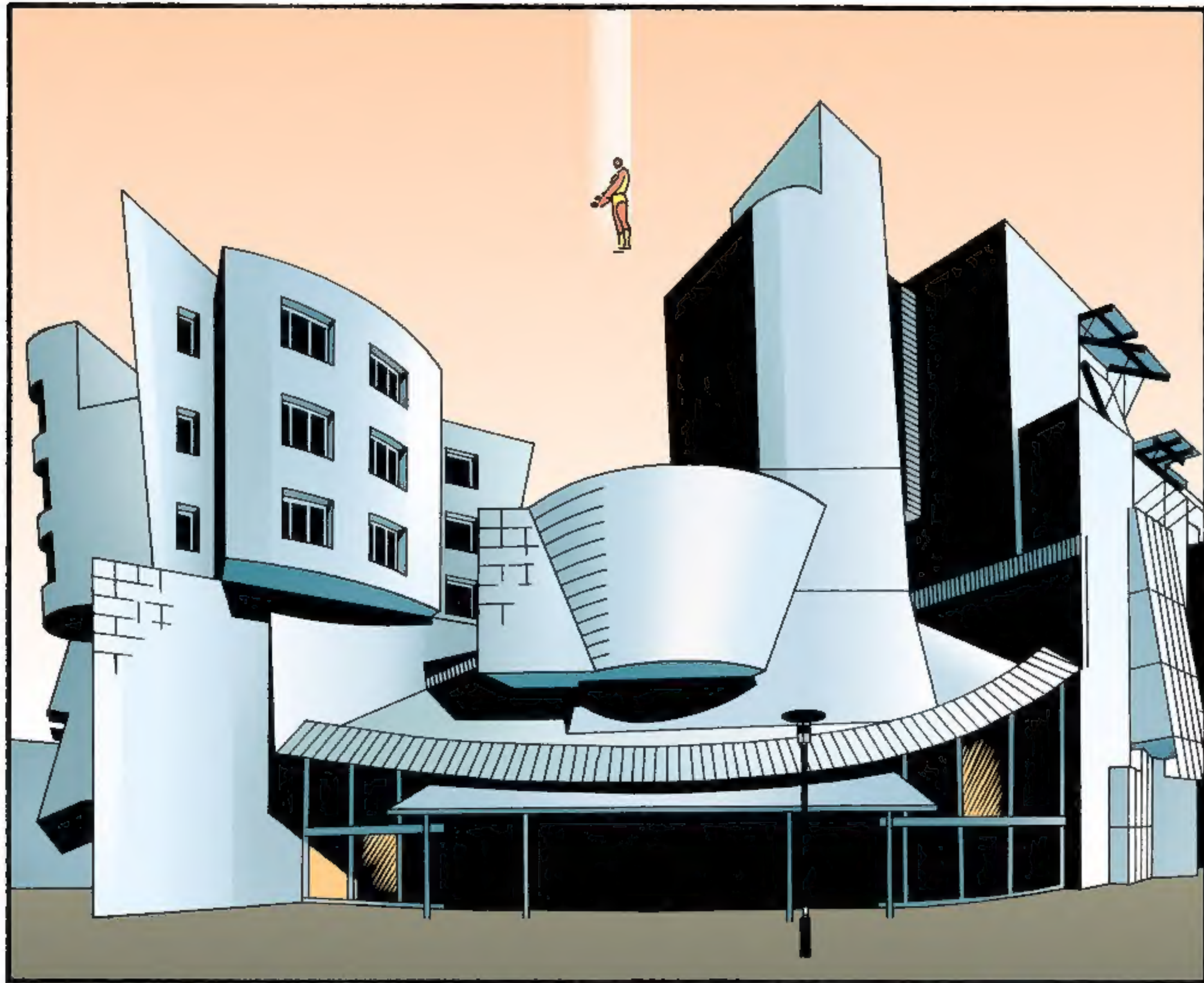




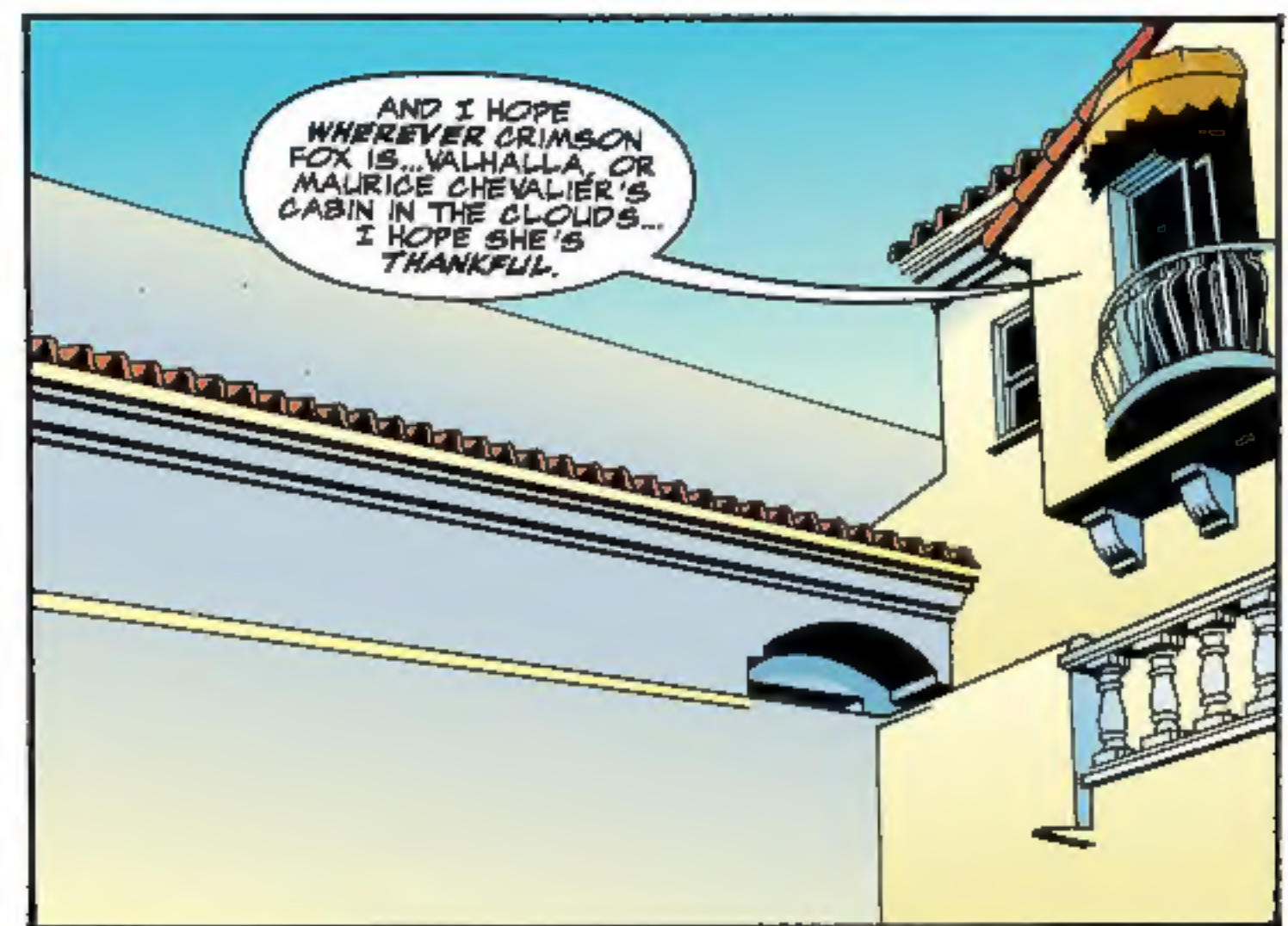
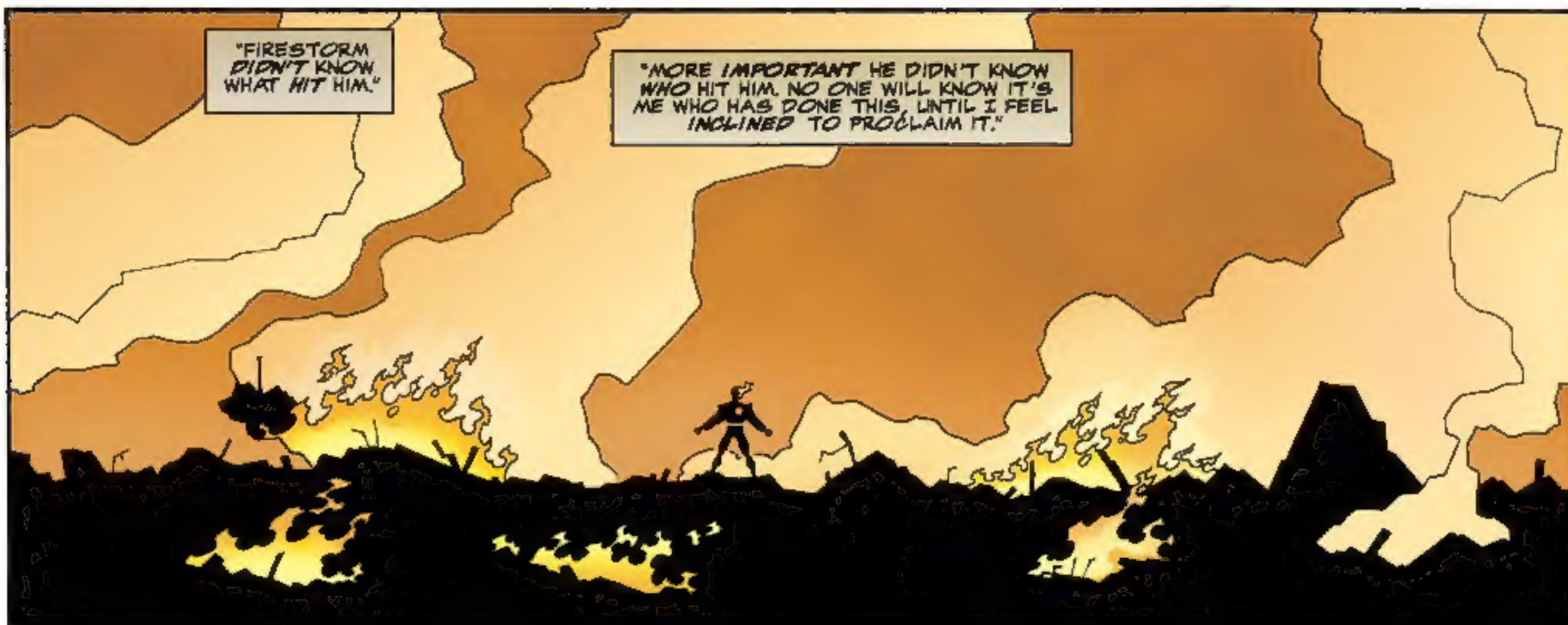
PERHAPS  
IT WILL KILL  
HIM. PERHAPS  
NOT.



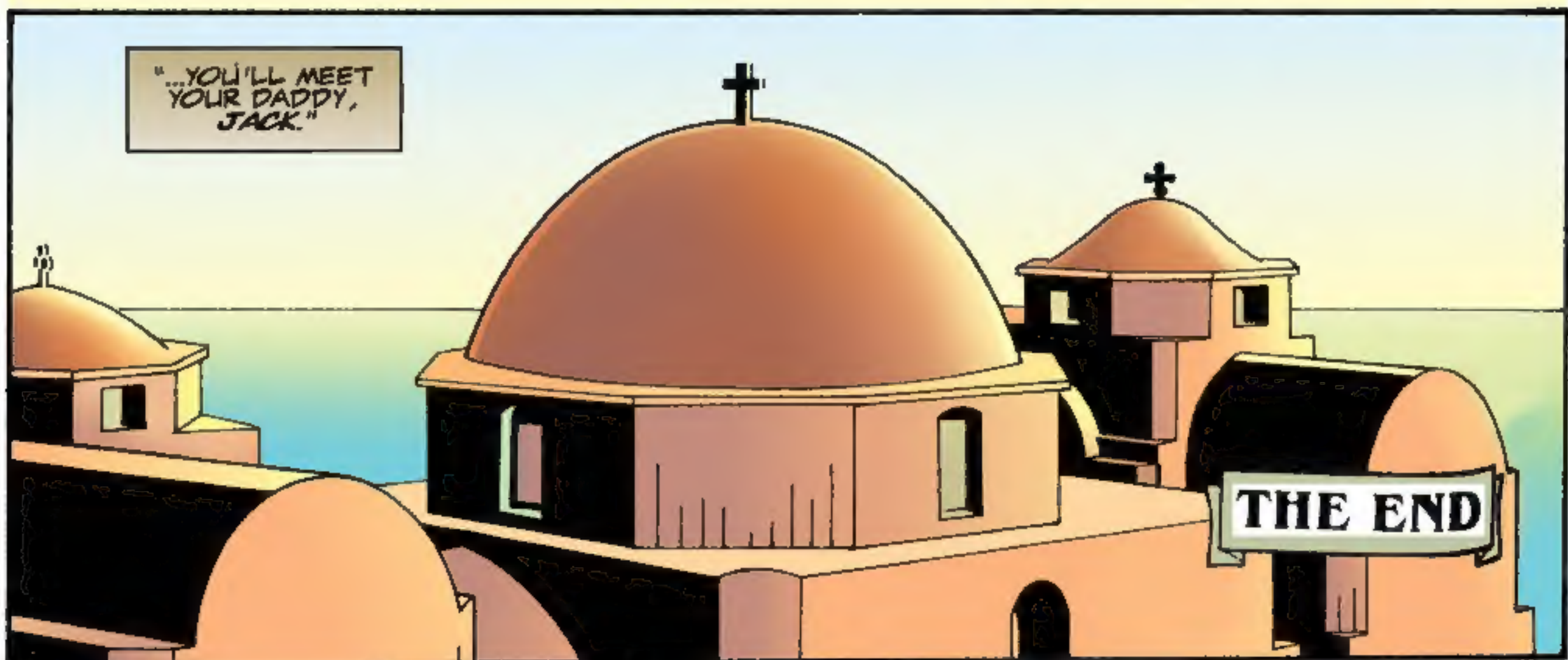
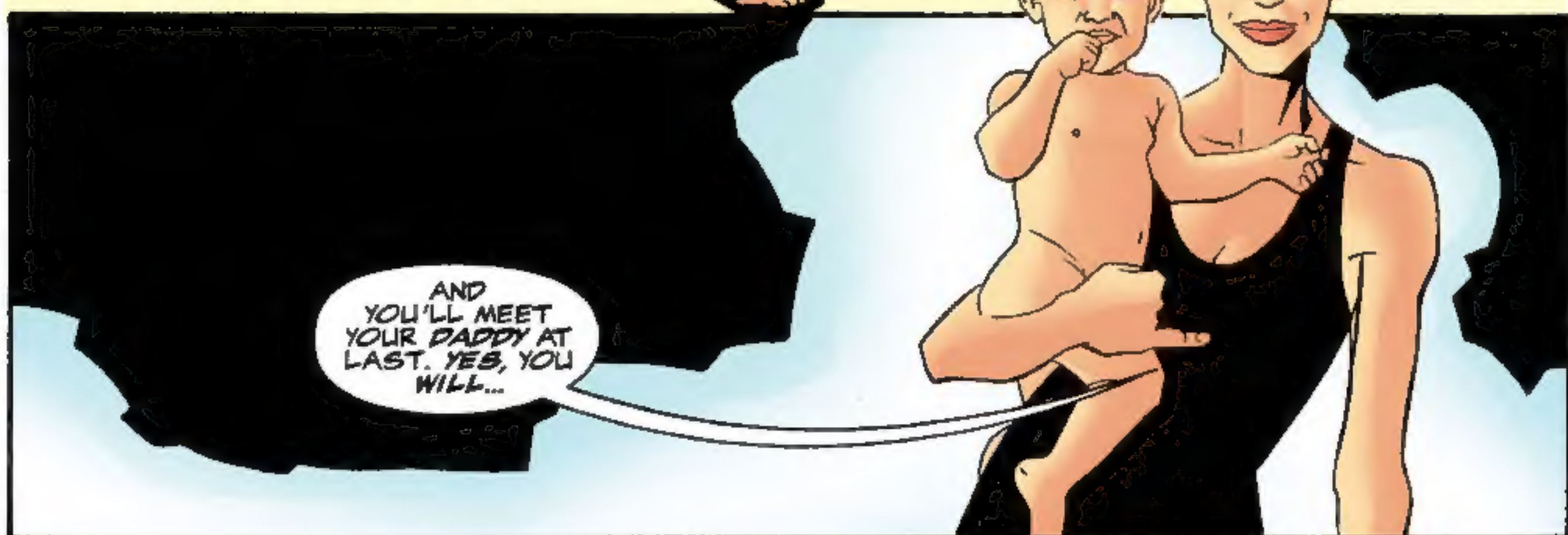














# Deadman Wade

"THIS IS WHAT  
AWESOME  
LOOKS LIKE".

DCP